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THE SUNDAY TIMES

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THE TIMES

No. 65,290

SATURDAY JUNE 10 1995

THE UNIVERSITY OF JORDAN
SERIALS DIVISION

Setback for conference militants

Teachers vote to reject Left's call for strike

By Ben Preston, Education Correspondent

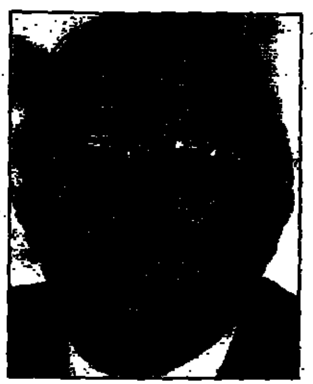
THE biggest teachers' union began to turn the tide against militants yesterday and decisively rejected a left-wing appeal for a one-day national strike over class sizes.

Members of the National Union of Teachers voted by more than four to one against the strike. The decision overturned a vote at the union's volatile Easter conference which was marred by the jostling of David Blunkett, Shadow Education Secretary, by far-Left delegates.

Doug McAvoy, the union's general secretary, hailed yesterday's result as a triumph over the "gesture politics" of left-wingers who had threatened to jeopardise parental support in the profession's campaign for increased education funding. The margin of victory was 66,979 votes to 16,404, with just over half the membership voting.

The decision effectively removes the threat of national action by teaching unions against rising class sizes. The moderate Association of Teachers and Lecturers is expected to follow the NUT's lead and concentrate on building links with parents and governors to present a united front against cuts threatened by a government squeeze on education spending.

The second biggest union, the National Association of Schoolmasters and Union of Women Teachers, began yesterday to consult members on an alternative strategy that will target individual schools and classes where funding cuts have increased members' workload. The campaign, which is not expected to bite until the start of the new school year in September, would involve sending pupils out of large classes to be supervised while normal lessons continue for the rest.



McAvoy: "triumph over gesture politics"

The NUT ballot result is a damaging blow to activists who dominated highly charged debates at the Blackpool conference. Citing estimates of more than 12,000 threatened job losses, the far Left persuaded delegates to back strike calls in defiance of appeals from parents, governors and politicians of all parties. The latest estimates suggest that 3,000 teachers will be made redundant, with others retiring early.

Mr McAvoy used his closing speech to launch an unprecedented public attack on some delegates, accusing them of "living in a fantasy world of unachievable aims, impossible goals and unattainable targets". Stung by widespread condemnation of delegates who threatened Mr Blunkett and his guide dog Lucy, he appealed to ordinary classroom teachers to reclaim their union from extremists.

Yesterday Mr McAvoy contrasted the ballot result with the conference majority of almost 10,000 in favour of a strike. He accused some delegates of pursuing their own political agenda and said the vote showed how they were out of touch with ordinary teachers. He said: "This result is a clear indication that members do not want to see the campaign for proper funding of the education service diverted into gesture politics. Such gestures would let the Government off the hook and destroy the alliance this union has built with parents, governors, local authorities and other teacher organisations."

The battle for control of the union, which is deeply spilt, threatens to be protracted, however. Fifteen left-wingers are expected to demand at a meeting of the national executive next week an investigation into Mr McAvoy's alleged adoption of "McCarthyite" tactics to smear those in favour of strikes.

Bernard Regan, a member of the executive, described yesterday's vote as "not a triumph for democracy but a travesty of democracy". He said: "The way in which the issues and the arguments were presented to members was a distortion and did not truly reflect the underlying feeling at conference. The leadership's campaign did no justice to the integrity of the people arguing for a strike."

Since the conference, Mr McAvoy has written three times to members repeating a warning that the union faced a takeover by the political extremists and urging members to make sure their views were not misrepresented.

Mr Blunkett welcomed yesterday's result: "Ordinary members of the NUT clearly recognise the importance of keeping parents onside in the campaign against education cuts."

The Department for Education said the decision was sensible. Margaret Morrissey, for the National Confederation of Parent Teacher Associations, said: "Parents will now be even more determined to go forward with teachers in support of their campaign on class sizes."

MIKE SCOTT

After all the tears: Zara Albright plays with her overjoyed mother, Shabina

'Untouchable' toddler is given all-clear to go home

By Paul Wilkinson

ZARA ALBRIGHT, two-and-a-half, who has spent the first years of her life sealed in a sterile room because she was born with no natural defences against illness, was preparing yesterday to go home for the first time.

She was diagnosed two years ago as suffering from severe combined immunodeficiency syndrome, a rare condition which mean she had to breath filtered, germ-free air and live in an 8ft by 4ft room in Newcastle General Hospital. Everything was sterilised to avoid infection, from each morsel of food to the toys she played with.

Apart from her medical team and her parents Simon, 37, and Shabina, 36, who had to don gown and mask to give their child a hug, she has had no contact with anyone. Mr Albright, an optician, worked a four-day week so that he could spend weekends in Newcastle upon Tyne with his wife, who lived with their daughter in the sterile room.

The improvement that will allow her to go home to Birmingham on Monday comes after four major operations, three minor ones and chemotherapy during which time the child's bone marrow was replaced with marrow donated by her father.

Zara's parents knew something was seriously wrong with their baby within three months of her birth when she suddenly started losing weight rapidly. Mrs Albright knew about the syndrome, having helped to nurse her sister's child who died of the same ailment. When the condition was diagnosed, in March 1993, they were flown to Newcastle where there is one of only two units in the country specialising in the condition.

From that moment until last month her only trips were by ambulance to the Royal Vctoria Infirmary in Newcastle for her operations.

Mr Albright said that the treatment was brutal. Doctors first had to kill off her own bone marrow, which as failing to produce immune cells. "One step in the wrong direction at that time and she would have been dead."

The first transplant was carried out two months after treatment began, but complications set in and in February last year Zara had to have her spleen removed. Dr Andrew Cant, who lead the medical team, sought advice from specialists all over Europe and in April last year they decided on another marrow transplant from her father.

A second transplant was needed in January and then a month ago test results showed the first signs that her immune system was developing. Doctors say she is now making rapid progress.

Four weeks ago her parents wept for joy when they were told that their only child had improved enough to go out. To mark the occasion they took her on a car tour of the Northumberland countryside.

Mrs Albright said: "I can't wait to have her home to do all the normal things, especially to have her in my own bed and make her first meal. For the first six months I cried every day. I don't know what the word 'relaxed' means."

Dr Cant said: "The thing that is so remarkable about Zara is that she has survived. The previous longest was a little boy who lasted nine months. You can't say you are detached: I am a parent."

Flotations 'at risk' after power sale row

By Arthur Leathley and Martin Waller

PRICES of future privatisations could be jeopardised by the Government's handling of the PowerGen and National Power flotation, Michael Lawrence, head of the Stock Exchange, said last night.

The Government came under pressure to make full disclosures about the £4 billion flotation after the Stock Exchange called for a fresh investigation of events leading to the sell-off.

John Major and Kenneth Clarke were forced to defend the Government's failure to disclose, in the days leading to the privatisation, that electricity prices were about to be capped.

Mr Lawrence said that the events surrounding the sell-off had damaged the exchange's worldwide reputation. He demanded a reinvestigation of the events leading to the flotation in March, which came only a day before Professor Stephen Littlechild, the electricity regulator, announced a review of electricity prices which forced the share prices to slump.

Mr Lawrence sparked a storm in the Commons and the City when he wrote to the Treasury on Thursday, claiming that he could not refer the incident to the the regulators because Crown Immunity prevented such investigation of government departments.

The Government responded to his call for further investigation by announcing that an inquiry would be carried out by a Treasury official, provoking angry calls from Labour leaders for an independent examination. Mr Lawrence insisted yesterday that foreign investors would be sceptical

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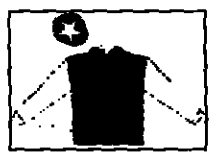

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Times sets a sales record

Sales of *The Times* hit another record in May. At an average of 664,501 copies a day, they were up by 146,900 on a year ago — the highest increase achieved by any national newspaper — and by more than 34,000 (5.4 per cent) over the previous month, according to the Audit Bureau of Circulations.

The circulation of *The Times* has nearly doubled since September 1993. Sales have risen by more than 310,000 copies a day, an increase of 88 per cent.

Police tape speakers

By Richard Ford, Home Correspondent

POLICE at Speakers' Corner in London's Hyde Park are to patrol with hidden cameras and tape recorders to try to curb increasing friction between rival religious and political groups.

Chief Inspector Alistair McLean, deputy chief officer of the group that patrols the royal parks, said the decision to use hidden cameras at Britain's most famous platform for free speech had been taken reluctantly but was necessary because police were receiving a rising number of demands from the public for action against different groups. "There has been developing at Speakers' Corner, not suddenly, but over a long period, religious fanaticism and political fundamentalism. It is Muslims and in some respects Christians who have become more vociferous in the way they are putting their dogma," Mr McLean said.

"At times their activities cause more than friction between factions, and also cause some offence to the public."

He said he had received letters from Christians and Muslims alike complaining of the language being used by speakers, some of whose remarks were causing distress to the public.

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Racegoers shy away from Saturday Derby

By Andrew Pierce and Jennai Cox

UNSETTLED weather and a forecast of even fewer racegoers than last year, have cast a cloud over today's Derby, switched to Saturday for the first time since the Queen's coronation.

Touts are said to be offering tickets at bargain prices while corporate entertaining has suffered in the shift from the traditional Wednesday. French-trained Pennekamp, winner of the 2,000 Guineas, will start a short-priced favourite to clinch a long overdue first victory in the race for Sheikh Mohammed.

Advanced ticket sales have failed to take off for the race, which last year attracted 103,000 people. In the halcyon days of the Derby shortly after the war, up to 250,000 people swarmed over Epsom Downs for the race.

Edward Gillespie, managing director of United Racecourses, which runs Epsom and is responsible for revamping this year's meeting, said that he hoped for a crowd of up to 75,000. "Obviously 100,000 would be nice but change takes time to be accepted. I believe it was important to move it to the weekend in common with all other major sporting events."

The meeting has been reduced from four to three consecutive days and rescheduled to later in the month. Mr Gillespie said: "It is only an experiment which is intended to last for two years. If it is a disaster we will change it next year."

The omens yesterday — Oaks Day — were not good. Ticket touts were selling £50 seats for the prestige Club Enclosure for only £30. "It's a bloody disaster," exclaimed one heavily-tattooed tout who did not wish to be named.

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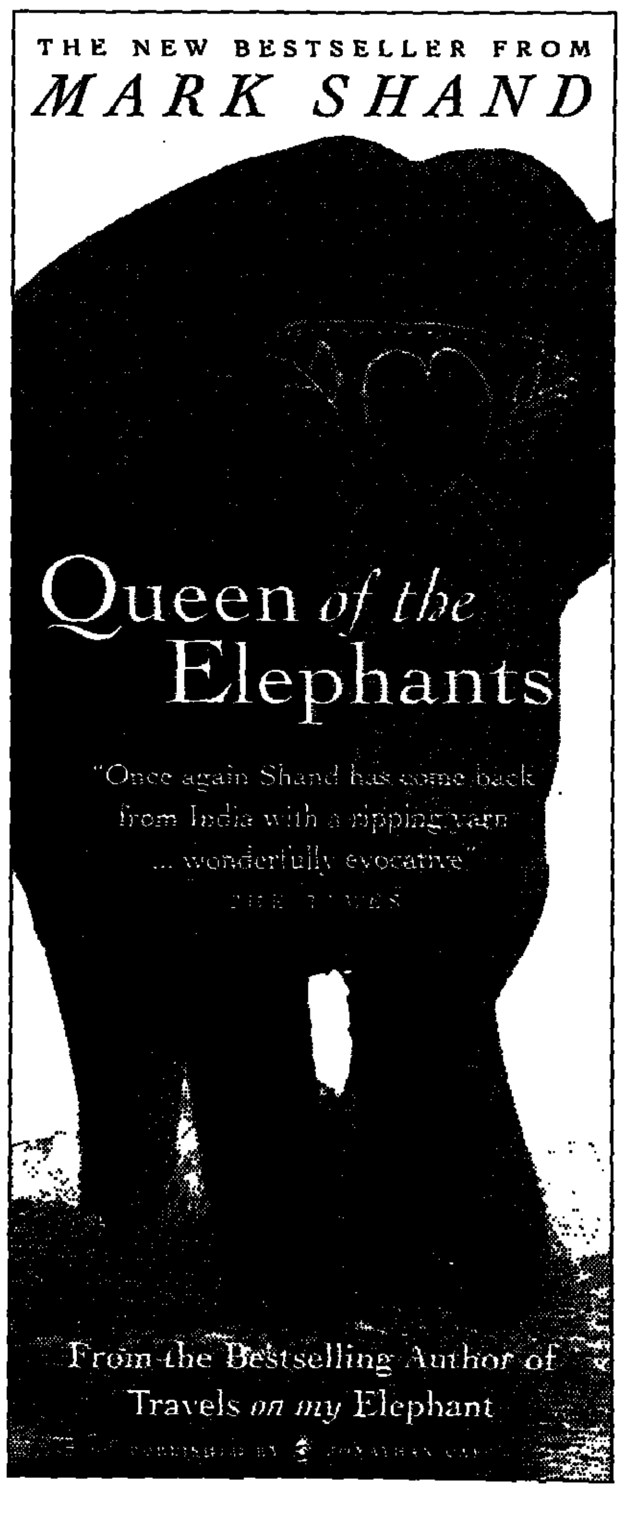

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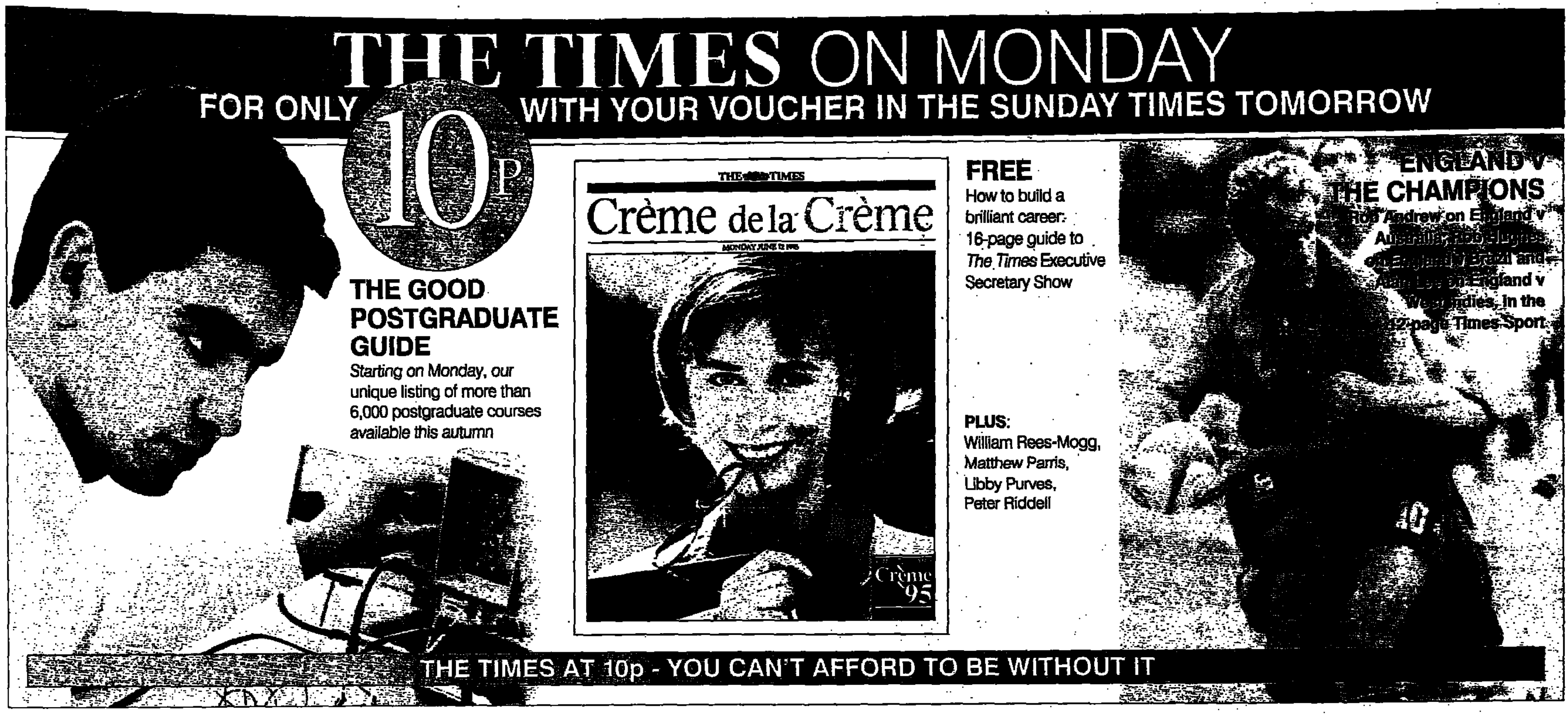
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THE TIMES AT 10p - YOU CAN'T AFFORD TO BE WITHOUT IT

'Party has to do what it believes is best'

Labour will decide wage rate policy, Blair tells unions

By Jill Sherman, political correspondent

TONY BLAIR is willing to ride roughshod over trade union demands that a minimum wage should be fixed at a precise rate before the next general election.

The Labour leader made his position clear last night as Britain's second biggest union prepared to challenge him over the issue at this year's party conference.

The Transport and General Workers' Union submitted a resolution for the October conference calling for the party to set the minimum wage at half the adult median wage, about £4.15 an hour. The resolution is likely to be supported by several unions that have always called for a formula based on the median wage. Both the GMB general union and Unison, the public service union, are campaigning for a set rate.

However, after a day-long strategy meeting with the Shadow Cabinet Mr Blair argued that unions were entitled to have their opinion but the party would not be bound by it. The party leadership has chosen to wait until Labour is in government, then establish a commission of trade unionists, employers and government representatives that would set a rate in accordance with the prevailing economic conditions.

"The unions are perfectly entitled to take their own view on it," Mr Blair said. "The Labour Party has to do what it believes is in the best interest of the country and that is what we will do. There is widespread support for the principle of a minimum wage but it has to be set and implemented sensibly."

The first test of the leadership's position will come today at the party's national policy forum in Reading. More than 100 delegates from constituency parties, local authorities and trade unions will discuss a policy paper spelling out the leadership's proposals on a minimum wage.

The policy forum can table amendments to documents that will go before Labour's national executive and trade union representatives are likely to push for a specific rate to be included in the paper.

Mr Blair warned his Shadow Cabinet last night to avoid complacency after the latest opinion poll put Labour 39 points ahead of the Tories. He told his colleagues that they could never take a general election victory for granted.

To counter accusations that Labour had no policies, he outlined five key themes on which the party would focus over the summer: the economy, welfare reforms, building high quality public services with resources concentrated on the front line, fighting crime and "rolling back the quango state".

He said: "We are well-placed, but not for a single moment will we let up on the process of change and development in the party. We have come as far as we have come because people are prepared to believe in today's new Labour Party but we need to deepen that message and broaden our support."

☐ The establishment of a committee of MPs to implement the Nolan reforms was delayed yesterday when Labour objected to the nomination of four Tories with several outside consultancies and directorships.

The committee is expected to draw up its first report on how to implement the reform of rules on MPs' outside interests within a month. Ministers hoped that the 11-strong membership would be approved yesterday but an objection from Brian Sedgemore (Lab, Hackney S and Shoreditch) will force a debate on the appointments next week.

Howard: austerity call

Howard limits prisoner spending

NEW limits on the amount of money prisoners can spend in jail were announced yesterday (Richard Ford writes). At the same time, the prison service unveiled plans to stop inmates from telephoning the media.

The curbs follow the Home Secretary's demand that the prison regime should be decent but austere and criticism that IRA prisoners at Whitemoor jail were able to spend hundreds of pounds on food and phone calls.

The new weekly spending limits on private cash will range from £2.50 to a maximum of £15 for convicted inmates, and £15 to £30 for remand prisoners.

To stop prisoners from telephoning media organisations, the service is testing the latest BT technology, which allows calls only to approved numbers.

Major tries to woo Lib-Dems after Ashdown realignment

By Philip Webster, political editor

JOHN MAJOR yesterday urged Liberal Democrats disillusioned with Paddy Ashdown's leadership to switch to the Tories. He exploited Liberal Democrat anger over Mr Ashdown's decision to drop the party's traditional neutrality between Labour and the Conservatives by accusing him of "announcing the death of Liberalism".

Mr Ashdown's move has upset some of his leading activists and MPs, such as Liz Lynne, the MP for Rochdale, who regard Labour as their main opponent. It has caused tension in the run-up to the Littleborough and Saddleworth by-election in Greater Manchester, which is likely to involve a bitter Labour-Liberal Democrat battle to be seen as the main challenger to the vulnerable Tories.

Mr Major told the Welsh Conservative conference in Llangollen that the Tories had always known that Mr Ashdown would like to prop up a Labour government. "Mr Ashdown would no doubt be happy to be Minister for Morris Dancing in a Blair cabinet," he declared. "But the leader of the Liberal Democrats announcing the death of Liberalism as an independent political force is of some significance."

He then made his appeal to the disaffected: "Liberalism has in the past been a powerful force in the history of Wales. Whatever our quarrels with the Liberals, we should acknowledge that in parts of Wales they have fought socialism as vigorously as us.

"So I suspect there will be some Liberals who cannot stomach being a wholly-owned subsidiary of the Labour Party. They know now from the lips of their own leader that there is now only one political party in this county which is committed to fighting the divisive, illiberal force of socialism and state control: us."

Those Liberals who still supported the ancient Liberal virtues of individual liberty, limiting the state and ever-wider opportunity were welcome to join the Tories. "Only the Conservative Party now stands for those values. We are open to anyone who shares them."

The day after the Cabinet set in a hand a two-year battle plan for the next election, Mr Major brushed aside the latest dismal poll ratings and declared that he had "no time for fainthearts in this party". He went on: "At the next election we will defeat Labour and their fellow travellers just as decisively as we have at the last four."

He launched a blistering attack on Labour's stance on Europe and its plans for devolution, as he hammered home of one of his party's new campaigning themes of Britain as a sovereign nation. Labour's support for the social chapter and a national minimum wage were "the ball and chain" which would cripple British chances of winning in the world's markets.

The Prime Minister said that Labour's devolution plans would potentially set each part of the United Kingdom against the others. Its proposal for a Welsh assembly was an insult to Wales, the leftovers of its plans for Scotland.

Ashdown: ending neutrality

Life sentence for male rape attempt

The first man to be convicted of attempted male rape made legal history when he was jailed for life yesterday. Andrew Richards would have faced a maximum ten years' imprisonment for non-consensual buggery before the introduction of the Criminal Justice Act 1994.

The Old Bailey was told that Richards, 25, a Welshman of no fixed address, attacked an 18-year-old fellow resident at a hostel for the homeless in London after luring him to Regent's Park. He was convicted last month of attempted rape, indecent asssault and assault. Judge Laughland, QC, praised the courage of the victim for reporting the attack and giving evidence in court.

Tunnel drugs charge

A man has been charged with drug smuggling after 25,000 Ecstasy tablets worth £400,000 were found in the spare tyre of a car at the entrance to the Channel Tunnel in France. Milton Jerrard, 55, a self-employed chauffeur from Chigwell, Essex, is being held at Dover and is expected to appear in court today. In a separate incident, four men were arrested when Ecstasy and cannabis valued at £8 million was shipped into Felixstowe, Suffolk.

Solicitors struck off

A husband and wife were both ordered to be struck off the Solicitors' Roll yesterday for gross professional misconduct. Gordon Thomson, 36, and his wife, Maria, 34, of Edinburgh, made fraudulent claims of £30,000 to the Legal Aid Board, the Scottish Solicitors Discipline Tribunal was told. The tribunal said the couple ran their firm generally in a manner that brought the profession of solicitors into disrepute.

Stabbed PC recovering

PC Adam Smith, 28, who was stabbed when he confronted a man armed with two knives in the West End of London, was out of intensive care in the Middlesex Hospital last night and well enough to sit up in bed and talk to visitors. He was stabbed in the chest after taking a blow intended for a doorman during a fracas outside a club in Soho on Thursday night. Two Tactical Support Group officers were also wounded in the struggle to arrest the attacker.

Boy, 14, on rape charges

A boy aged 14 accused of raping two 12-year-old girls on May 31, indecently assaulting two other 12-year-olds on March 19 and indecently assaulting an 11-year-old girl on March 30 was remanded to secure accommodation for a week by Oldham Youth Court, Greater Manchester. He said nothing during the 15-minute hearing but nodded to confirm his name, age and address. All the alleged offences took place in Oldham.

Christian radio on air

The first Christian radio station in Britain goes on air at 3pm today with a prayer of dedication by the Bishop of Southwark. The Archbishop of Canterbury, George Carey, will be a guest this weekend on the station, called Premier Radio. It is owned by the Christian Media Trust and will broadcast to London and the Home Counties on 1332AM, 1305AM and 1413AM. If successful it will expand to other cities.

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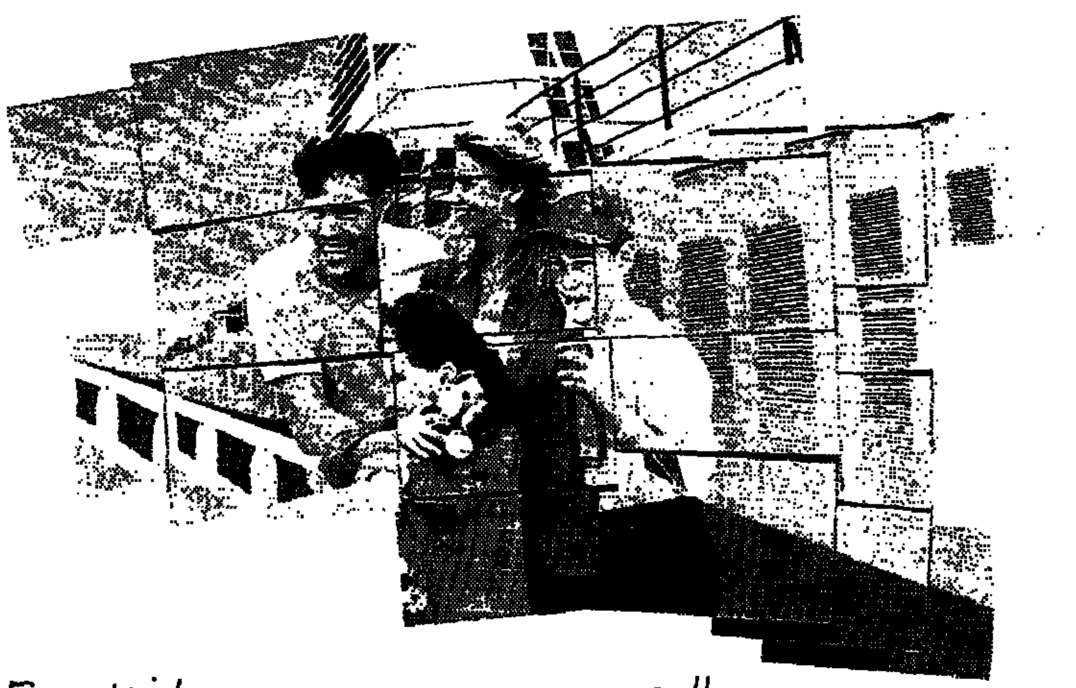
Stock Exchange fear over sell-offs

Continued from page 1

about the next two large privatisations — of the railway network and nuclear electric — would also be damaged by the sell-off. "There has been quite a little bit of damage. A few weeks ago I was in the United States and a number of major funds there, with a lot of money invested in London, made it clear they were unhappy." Asked whether the controversy might scupper the forthcoming privatisations, he said: "There will be an investors' perception of greater risk which would actually manifest itself more in the nature of price than in the nature of acceptability." Yesterday, Sir George Young, Financial Secretary to the Treasury, was forced to make an emergency Commons statement defending the Government's position as the clamour for action grew. Gordon Brown, the Shadow Chancellor, criticised the decision to let the Treasury investigate its own conduct.

The Prime Minister tried to defuse the controversy while attending the Welsh Conservative conference in Llangollen. "The hysteria with which this has been greeted is quite extraordinary." He said that the Stock Exchange had carried out an internal investigation, produced a letter detailing the sequence of events and suggested the Treasury make further investigations. "The Treasury have decided they would do that. Once they have done that, they will publish the outcome of those investigations."

The PowerGen and National Power shares are offering small investors who bought at the time, in ignorance of Professor Littlechild's proposed action, a good profit. The shares were sold to the public at 170p for National Power and 185p for PowerGen, the more highly regarded in the City. Those who hold the first company were last night looking at a 37½p profit, or a gain of 22 per cent, while PowerGen shares have since risen by 23p, or 12 per cent.



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Old Bailey judge jails 'thoroughly wicked' fraudster who chopped down healthy trees

Conman charged £3,700 to create garden wasteland

By Dominic Kennedy

A CONFIDENCE trickster who chopped down every tree in a beautiful garden except the only one which needed felling was jailed yesterday for five years.

Walter Smith, 35, charged the tearful owner £3,700 for destroying five trees with a hand saw. An Old Bailey judge told him he was "a thoroughly wicked and dishonest man".

Olgierv Zebrowski, his victim, said last night that he had been unable to look at his garden since all but one of the trees had been felled. "He deserved five years, maybe more, for what he has done. I had established a sort of wild nature reserve which that man turned into a wasteland. It will take many years to restore — I only hope that I am alive to see it," added 57-year-old Mr Zebrowski. "This has caused me so much distress. It is not just the destruction of my garden, but the amount of money that awful man charged."

Smith: preyed on elderly

Sarah Plaschkes, for the prosecution, told an earlier hearing that Smith was already on bail for a £1,500 deception involving an elderly man when he visited the home of Mr Zebrowski, a retired telegraphist, in Hounslow, west London. Smith, who had a long record of similar offences, mainly involving the elderly, told the gardening enthusiast that his neighbours on both sides had complained that his trees were so badly diseased they were worried their own gardens would be affected. This was a lie, said Miss Plaschkes. No one had complained.

Mr Zebrowski handed over £3,700 and was told that five trees would be felled. The work could have been done for £60 plus VAT by a competent tree surgeon. Mr Zebrowski faces a bill estimated at thousands of pounds to redesign the plot. One old pear tree was left untouched. Unfortunately, it was the only one that needed to be cut down.

On one visit, Smith brought a six-year-old girl and told Mr Zebrowski that she was the daughter of his workmate, who had been helping him in his garden. "He said his friend had been electrocuted by my lawn mower and that I was to blame. He asked if I would like to contribute to the funeral and I gave him £1,500," said Mr Zebrowski.

Smith, of Fulham, south-west London, admitted three charges of deception. At the previous hearing he collapsed as the judge was about to sentence him and was taken to hospital. He appeared in the dock yesterday with his arm in a sling.

Richard Matthews, for the defence, said Smith had a broken finger and damaged hand. He suffered from blackouts and a severe stutter since his boxing days and was in constant need of painkillers.

Smith had been hoping to pay compensation to his previous victim by selling his car and property which he jointly owned with his wife. Since his wife had now left him, this was not possible. Mr Matthews said Smith was shocked, disappointed and hurt by his wife's departure.

CHRIS HARRIS

Olgierv Zebrowski with the only tree Smith left: "It will take years to restore my garden. I hope I live to see it"

Smith has offered to sell his only possession, a £6,500 caravan, to compensate Mr Zebrowski. Mr Recorder Clegg, QC, who saw Smith collapse in the dock at the previous hearing, said: "The chances of anyone getting a penny-piece are extremely remote but just in case I shall make an order for compensation."

He told Smith: "You have made a career out of this particular type of crime, crimes that are particularly repulsive. Having found a victim who through age or incapacity is compliant to your demands you bleed them for every penny you can put your dishonest hands on."

The judge said Smith had betrayed the trust of Kingston Crown Court, which had allowed him bail, by committing these offences. Smith was sentenced to five years' imprisonment consecutive to the two-year sentence he was already serving for deception, making a total of seven years.

Safeway fined for onion in salad

By Paul Wilkinson

THE Safeway supermarket chain was ordered to pay more than £2,000 yesterday because a shop assistant failed to tell a customer there was onion in a salad he bought.

York magistrates found Britain's fourth largest store group guilty of selling a tuna and pasta mayonnaise salad that was not of the substance demanded by the customer, at its branch at Acomb, York, last July. Safeway, which had denied the charge, was fined £1,750 and ordered to pay £585 costs.

Richard Morton, 49, a picture framer from York, was left in agony when the onion triggered an allergy, the court was told. Stuart Pudney, for the prosecution brought by North Yorkshire trading standards department, said: "Mr Morton is allergic to onions but he was told by a shopgirl and her supervisor that the salad didn't contain the vegetable before he bought it."

He said the salad was labelled legally because as loose and unpacked food it was not necessary to list all its 18 ingredients. "But it is what he was told that amounted to an offence under the food safety regulations, not the labelling on the counter."

The delicatessen counter assistant and her supervisor both said the salad did not contain onion. Mr Pudney said: "What they should have said in answer to the question was that they didn't know."

Bigamist who abducted baby gets three years

By Kate Alderson

A MOTHER of three who abducted a new-born baby was sentenced to three years' imprisonment yesterday for abduction and bigamy. Chester Crown Court was told that the abducted baby's mother, Christine Owens, 32, from Llandudno, had found it difficult to resume the role of a normal mother since the abduction.

Susan Brooke, 39, took three-day-old Lydia when her husband told her, 14 months into a "fantasy pregnancy", that he would leave if she had not had the baby by the weekend.

Brooke was not divorced from her third husband when she married Phil Brooke, ten years her junior. She believed he would leave her if she did not have a child.

Mr Justice Scott Baker sentenced Brooke to 2½ years for abducting Lydia from the Glan Clwyd Hospital in Bodelwyddan, Clwyd, and to six months for commiting bigamy. He told her: "You are an accomplished, manipulative and determined liar. I am satisfied you planned the abduction of this child with some care."

The court was told that Brooke went to the hospital four months ago to abduct a baby. The prosecution said she had visited the hospital on a number of occasions and took a sports duffel bag with her to smuggle out a child. She made her way to the six-bed maternity ward and struck up a conversation with Mrs Owens about her new baby, asking about the child's name and weight.

The two women shared a coffee and a chat until Brooke told Mrs Owens she was going to the lavatory. While Mrs Owens remained in the day room, Brooke took Lydia from her cot and walked out of the hospital with her in the bag. Within minutes Mrs Owens realised her child was missing and a massive police search started.

Two tip-off telephone calls from local women alerted police officers to Lydia's whereabouts. The baby was discovered within 20 hours of the abduction lying on a bed in a cot between Mr and Mrs Brooke in their bungalow in Rhyl, Clwyd.

Mrs Brooke immediately told detectives: "It's here. I shouldn't have taken it. I have done it no harm. I was afraid my husband was going to leave me, that's why I did it." Brooke has three children, Lisa, 18, Joanne, 16, and Mark, 21; two stepchildren and five grandchildren. She was sterilised in 1978.

Lydia Owens, now more than four months old, is described by her family as healthy and extremely well. However, the court was told that Mrs Owens is now afraid to allow her children out of her sight, her eldest daughter travels to school in a taxi and she still worries about the time her baby was away from her.

Obsessed PC lied over speed checks

By Lucy Berrington

A VILLAGE policeman became so obsessed by speeding motorists that he perverted the course of justice to secure convictions, a court was told yesterday.

PC Barry Vine, 49, who was described as the epitome of a village bobby, was haunted by the carnage he had seen on the roads during his 16 years in the force and regularly set up speed traps in the Northamptonshire villages of Spratton and Creaton, Northampton Crown Court was told.

After pulling over two motorists and giving them speeding tickets, he failed to check that his radar gun was working. He later lied on a police form, saying that he had carried out the check.

He admitted trying to pervert the course of justice and was given a conditional discharge. Judge Crane told him: "You cut corners. Your zeal unfortunately became an obsession."

Sam Mainds, for the defence, said that Vine loved being a policeman, but he was now likely to lose his job. He was being treated in a psychiatric hospital.

☐ A traffic warden who issued more than 4,000 parking tickets last year is to receive an award for her "outstanding work-rate". Angela Hallam, 43, who works in Southsea, will receive a Certificate of Commendation from John Hoddinott, Chief Constable of Hampshire.

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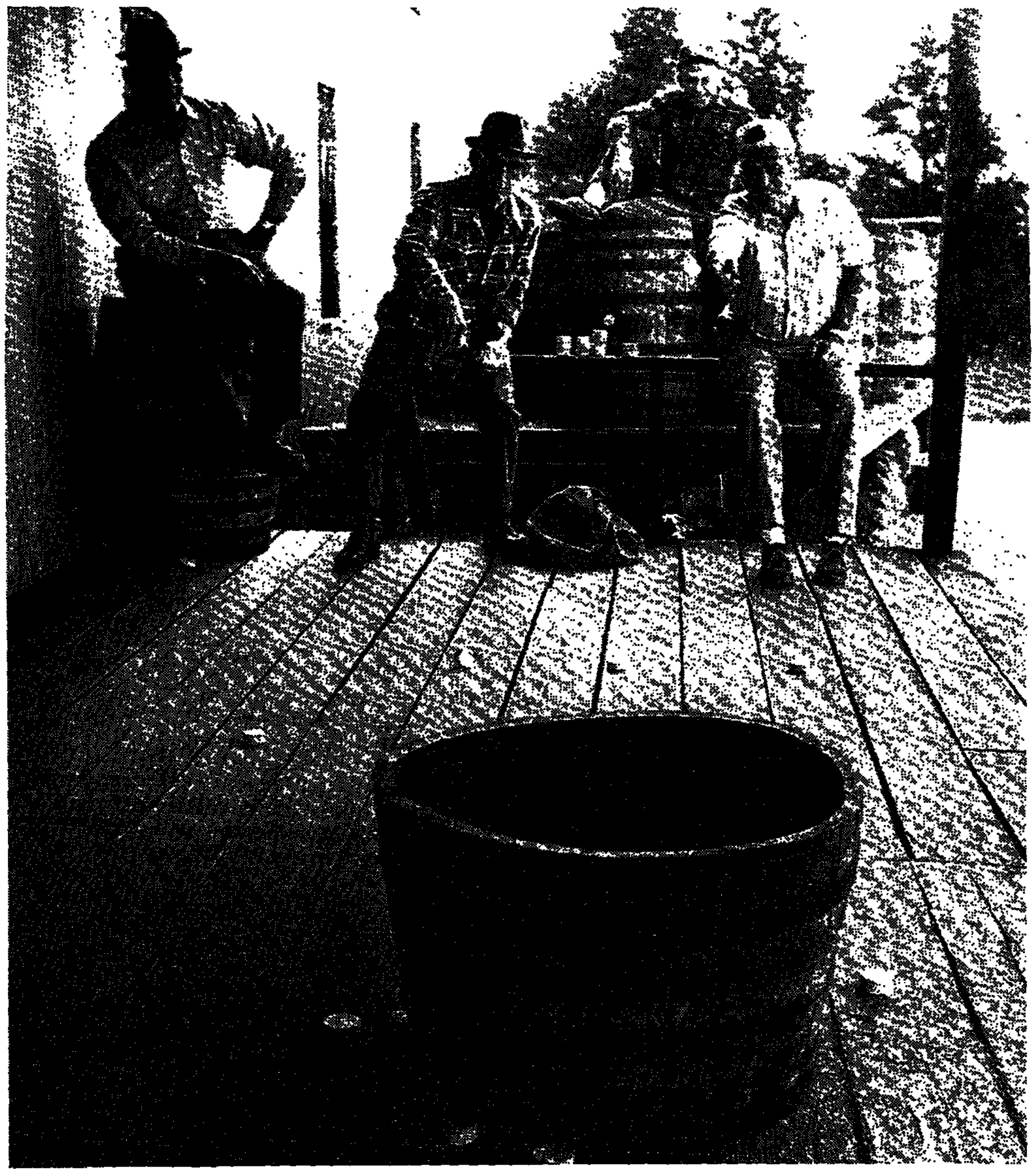

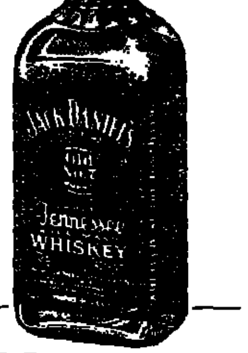

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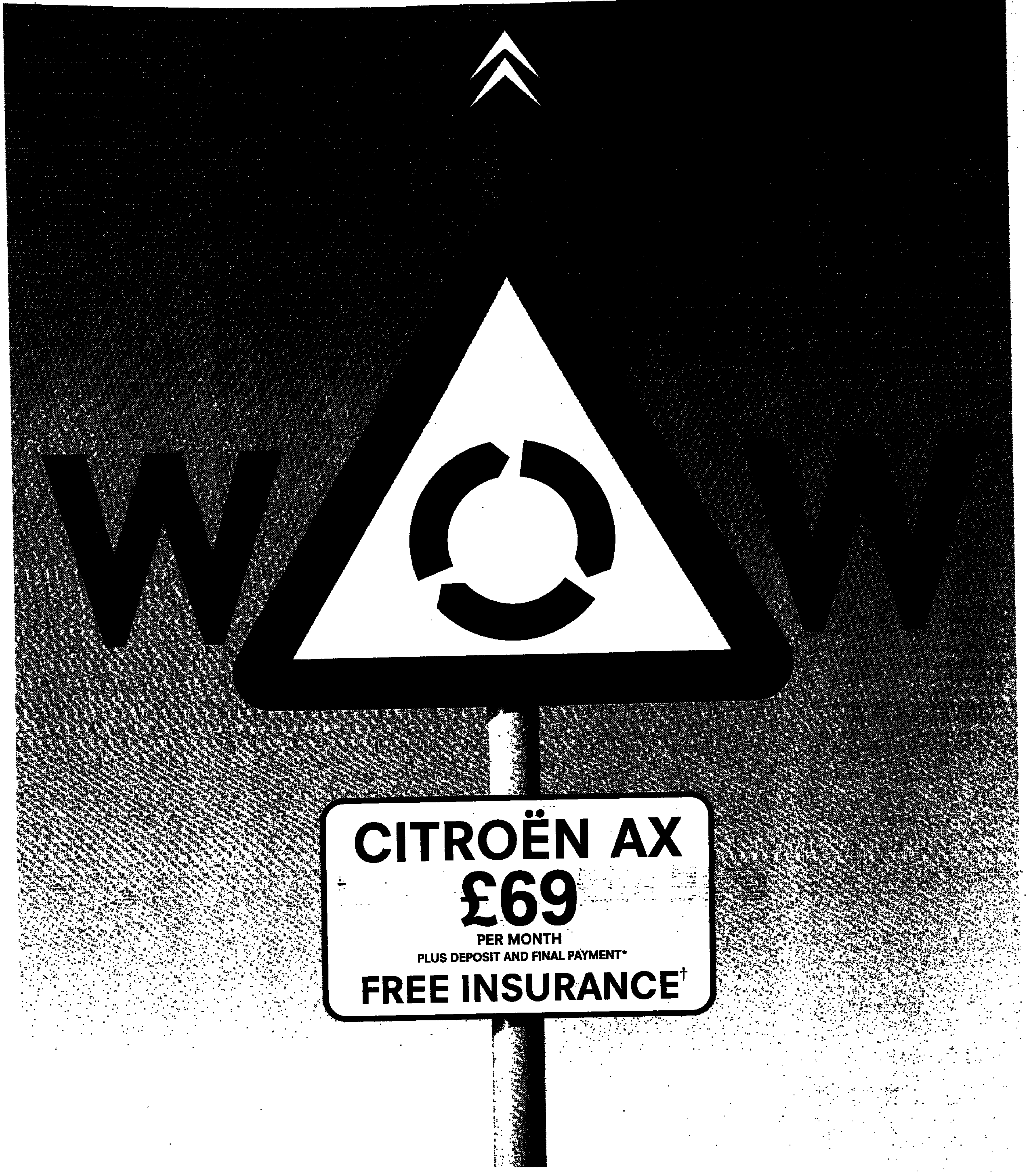

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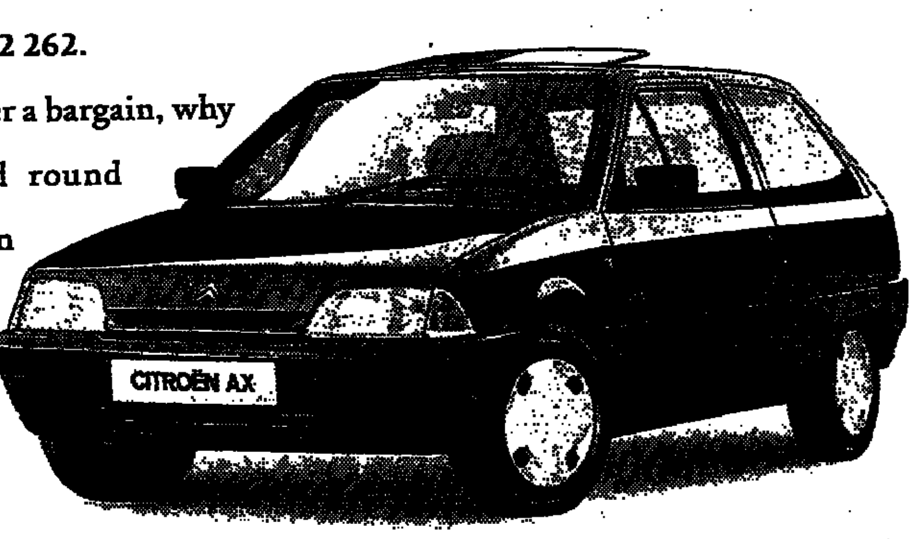

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RSC to abandon London in peak tourist season

By Alexandra Frean, media correspondent

PLANS by the Royal Shakespeare Company to leave its London home at the Barbican Centre for six months of the year and to set up bases in other cities were greeted with dismay in the capital yesterday.

The London Tourist Board said that the decision by Adrian Noble, the RSC's artistic director, to take the company out of London during the summer months from 1997 was "ridiculous".

"London probably has the most vibrant theatre in the world and the idea that Shakespeare will not be adequately represented seems unbelievable. More than 40 per cent of all tickets for London theatres are bought by overseas tourists, many of whom come here to go to the theatre," a spokeswoman for the board said.

One of the RSC's paymasters, the Corporation of London, said it also regretted the move. Michael Cassidy, chairman of the corporation's policy committee, said: "Our initial shock horror reaction has now been dispersed. We will now be trying to offer regional companies, such as the Bristol Vic, the chance to perform in London."

Outlining the changes yesterday, Mr Noble said that the RSC had a duty to increase its access across the nation as the millennium approaches. "For the next five years my major task in guiding the artistic development of this national company must be to ensure that the best of the RSC's work is seen as widely as possible throughout the United Kingdom," he said.

Under the plans, the RSC will extend its touring programme to include larger theatres and more venues. It also plans to set up more residencies outside London, modelled on the five-week residency it operates in Newcastle upon Tyne every year, and to step up its educational workshops. The company, which receives an £8.5 million Arts Council subsidy, will continue to mount productions all year round at Stratford-upon-Avon. The move has the full backing of the RSC's governors as well as the Arts Council, which ten days ago published a discussion paper encouraging Britain's national companies to increase their touring.

Theatres outside London also gave the plans a cautious welcome. Ruth McKenzie, executive director of the Nottingham Playhouse, said she hoped the RSC would be prepared to work on coproductions with other theatre companies and not just stage its own productions: "We would be delighted to work in partnership with them," she said.

Patric Gilchrist, general manager of the Theatr Clwyd, said he welcomed the idea in principle. "I do fear, however, that a well-resourced company such as the RSC might upstage the regional theatres' own work by coming in, doing a short hit-and-run production and then leaving," he said.

Leading article, page 19

SIMON WALKER

Sammy the sealion, whose tricks will not be rewarded with mackerel. His keeper said: "We do not want to encourage him to perform for food."

Show-off sealion is trained to stop doing tricks

By Marianne Curphey

A YOUNG sealion's days of standing on his flippers and barking for his fish supper are numbered.

Growing public concern over teaching tricks to wild animals has led keepers of Sammy, a sealion at Longleat Safari Park in Wiltshire, to train him out of his compulsive barking and acrobatics. The six-year-old bull has been put on a strict programme of rehabilitation and will no longer be rewarded with his daily 15lb of mackerel when he barks or shows off. He will be fed only when he is swimming quietly in the lake.

Sammy has been barking constantly since his transfer to Wiltshire from the Welsh Mountain Zoo near Colwyn Bay. Longleat does not believe in teaching animals tricks but the keepers at his former home claim he enjoyed daily sessions of flipper-walking and balancing balls on his nose. Peter Dickinson, head keeper at the Welsh Mountain Zoo, said sealions picked up tricks very quickly. He said: "It is part of a programme designed to make life more interesting for the animals. Sealions in particular would soon get bored if they had no stimulation. I would never force an animal to do something it did not like."

However, Keith Harris, head warden at Longleat, said Sammy's bad habits and barking needed to be discouraged. He said: "Sammy remembers his tricks from Colwyn Bay but here at Longleat we do not encourage animals to perform for food. The noise he makes is so loud it was too much to bear. He developed a habit of splashing sightseers to make them feed him."

Leading article, page 19

Driver blamed for train deaths

By Jonathan Prynn, transport correspondent

A TRAIN driver ignored an alarm in his cab warning him that he had passed a red signal and ploughed head-on into another train, killing himself and four other people.

The official report into the crash, at Cowden, Kent, last October concluded that Brian Barton, 31, the driver of the northbound train, had been "wholly responsible" for the accident.

"To have driven on ... to a point where he must have realised that the signal had been passed is not only inexcusable and blameworthy but also totally irresponsible," the Health and Safety Executive said.

The inquiry also found that the crash could have been avoided if advanced automatic safety systems had been installed in the trains or if they had been equipped with in-cab radio. Major Kit Holden, the HSE investigator who wrote the report, concluded: "I do not believe that this situation is acceptable now any more than it was in 1989 when Sir Anthony Hidden made his report [into the 1988 Clapham crash]."

The two drivers, a British Rail guard and two passengers died and 13 passengers were injured when the trains collided in thick fog on the single-track line from Oxted, Surrey, to Uckfield, East Sussex, on October 15.

Mr Barton had been accompanied in the cab, in breach of BR rules, by the guard, Jonathan Brett-Andrews, 36, described in the report as a "somewhat extrovert, talkative character" who had been given three warnings about riding in drivers' cabs.

It has been suggested that Mr Brett-Andrews was driving the northbound train at the time of the accident. Major Holden said yesterday he would be giving more details as to who was at the controls in the second part of his report, which would be published after the inquest into the deaths.

THE TIMES / DILLONS FORUM

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The road from serfdom

'The politics and economics of post-communism' — an evening of discussion with Robert Skidelsky

THE challenges which face the post-communist world will be discussed by Robert Skidelsky at a Times/Dillons forum on Tuesday, June 27. He will explore the themes raised in his latest book, *The World After Communism*, in which he charts the rise and fall of collectivism and outlines a strategy to prevent its re-emergence.

The key, Lord Skidelsky argues, is to develop a new "constitution of liberty", one which recognises the need for the state to offer a secure framework for markets, but which also limits the ambitions of the state to those tasks for which people are prepared to pay in common.

Daniel Johnson, Literary Editor of *The Times*, will chair the forum, which will be held at Church House, Great Smith Street, Westminster, London SW1 on Tuesday, June 27 at 7.30 pm. Tickets at £10 each (concessions £7.50), which includes £2 off the price of Lord Skidelsky's book, are available by calling 0171-636 3435 ext. 240, by faxing the coupon below to 0171-580 7680, or by sending the coupon, with your remittance, to Dillons the Bookstore, 82 Gower Street, London WC1, where tickets can also be purchased in person.

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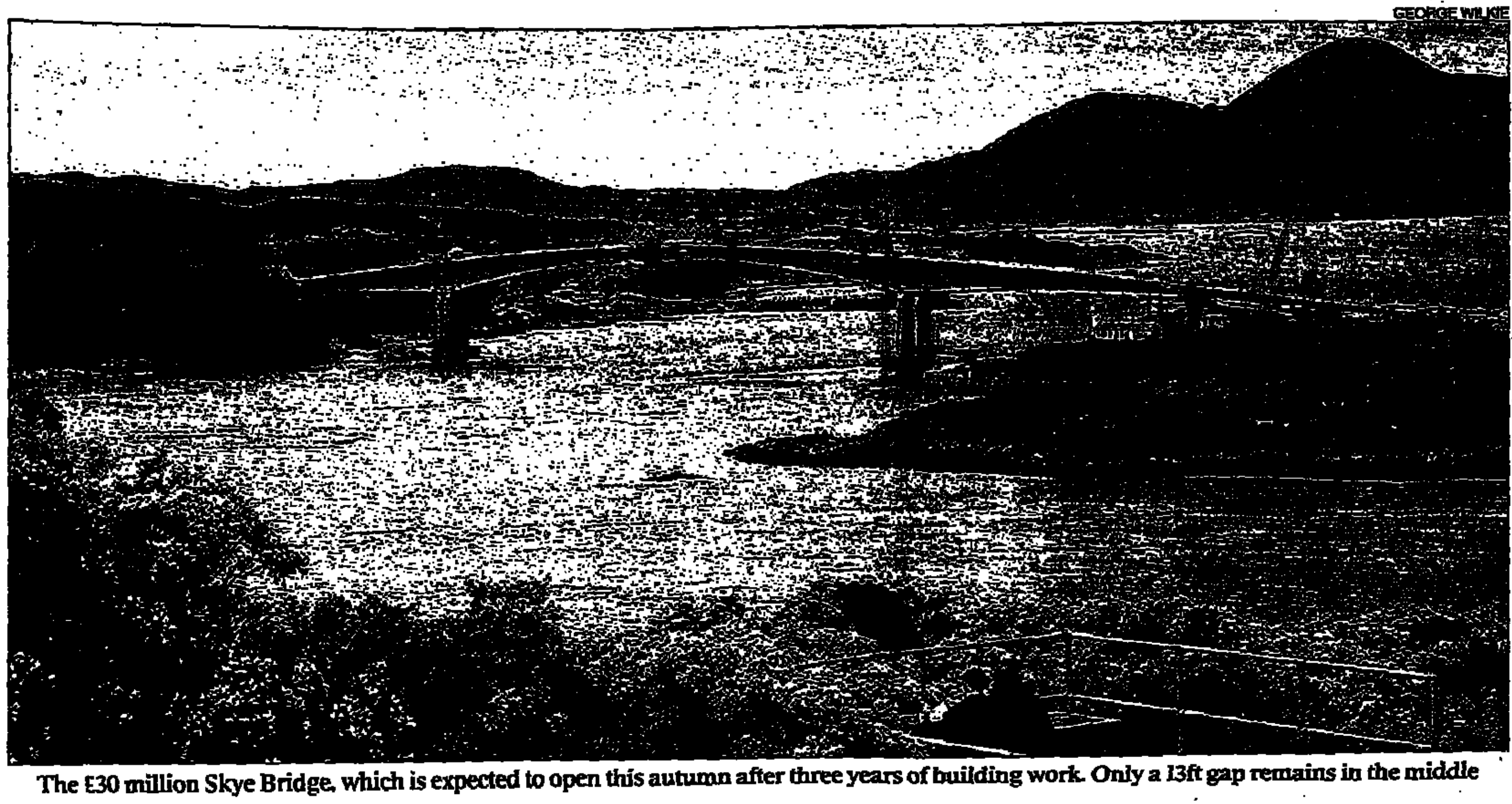
Ted and me

Also tomorrow, Margaret Thatcher's own story of how she beat Edward Heath to become Tory leader.



GEORGE WILKIE

The £30 million Skye Bridge, which is expected to open this autumn after three years of building work. Only a 13ft gap remains in the middle

Children take historic walk over the sea from Skye

BY GILLIAN BOWDITCH
SCOTLAND CORRESPONDENT

ELEVEN children took a short stroll into history yesterday by becoming the first islanders from Skye to walk to the Scottish mainland. Led by two teachers, they became the first people apart from construction workers to cross the new £30 million Skye road bridge.

Their trip took about half an hour each way. In the middle, where there is still a 13ft gap between the two ends of the roadway, they descended to a catwalk slung underneath.

The bridge, between Kyleakin and Kyle of Lochalsh, will not officially open until autumn, three years after building began. Its 780ft main span is believed to make it the longest single-cantilever bridge in Europe.

Tolls are due to be set this month and are expected to be £5.20 for cars in peak season and £4.30 in the off-season. The tolls have upset some locals who believe that they are being held to ransom by a private monopoly, as the bridge will replace the two ferries that currently ply the route.

The Skye Bridge has been built with private money by The Miller Group and the German company *Dywidag*, which will receive the revenue from tolls for at least 15 years, depending on traffic.

Ancient track destroyed by maintenance workers

BY IAN MURRAY

A 300-YARD stretch of one of Britain's main prehistoric tracks, which crosses the designated World Heritage Site including Stonehenge, has been destroyed after a breakdown in communications between two government agencies and a county council.

The rutted section of the 5,000-year-old Ridge Way was destroyed by contractors who were supposed to be resurfacing nearly half a mile of the track, which had been badly damaged by four-wheel-drive vehicles and cross-country motorbikes. Work was halted on Thursday morning after archaeologists protested to the Countryside Commission, English Heritage and Wiltshire County Council.

The Ridge Way is officially a national trail and as such the local council is responsible for its upkeep. A planning inquiry last year ruled that it was not possible to prevent vehicles from using what was an historic route from Wiltshire to Hertfordshire, increasing the need for maintenance.

The Countryside Commission, which has a duty to ease access to rural places, has a budget for maintenance work. English Heritage has overall responsibility for the care of important sites. Yesterday the three bodies were blaming each other.

Wiltshire County Council said it was under pressure from the commission to repair the badly rutted section and had been warned that it would lose a 75 per cent grant towards the cost if the job was not finished by the end of this month. "A long-promised archaeological survey by English Heritage has failed to materialise," the council said in a statement. "This would have gone some way towards avoiding the situation."

Sarah Barlow at the Countryside Commission said: "It was Wiltshire which sent in the bulldozers. We acted in good faith and were prepared to extend the deadline for the grant as we had done several times already. The point is that this is a national trail and we have to offer it to as many people as possible for as much of the year as possible."

Geoffrey Wainwright, chief archaeologist of English Heritage, said: "The Countryside Commission should have spoken more clearly to Wiltshire. There are no scheduled monuments on this site so we have no locus there.

"We did write to all the authorities concerned a month ago to suggest a management plan be prepared and we offered to pay for it, but we heard back only from Avebury Parish Council.

"It really is a very nasty business. Ripping up flints and replacing them with Cotswold stone. What on earth did they think they were doing?"

Duncan Coe, the Wiltshire county archaeologist, said he had continually warned the council against doing anything until there had been a proper assessment of what was involved. "Now this stretch is lost for ever."

Wainwright: nasty business

'Salisbury hoard' thieves avoid jail

BY A STAFF REPORTER

TWO treasure hunters who stole a valuable hoard of Iron and Bronze Age artefacts, part of which was bought by the unsuspecting former Conservative Party treasurer Lord McAlpine, walked free from court yesterday.

James Garriock, 43, and Terrence Rossiter, 47, nodded their thanks to Judge Hordern, QC, who said that "exceptional circumstances" enabled him to suspend their nine-month prison terms for a year. The men unearthed more than 500 items in a field near Salisbury, Wiltshire, ten years ago without the landowner's knowledge.

They made more than £5,000 each, selling most of their haul of tools, weapons, ornaments and jewellery — some 4,000 years old — to a dealer. Passing sentence at Knightsbridge Crown Court, Judge Hordern said: "Both of you knew that you should have reported what you had found. You had enough knowledge to appreciate that you had come across something of very considerable archaeological importance and that if you did not report it the archaeological value of what you had found might well be considerably impaired, if not lost."

Their dishonesty was so serious that prison sentences had to be passed but they could be suspended because not only had a long time elapsed since they discovered what had become known as the "Salisbury Hoard", but he could understand "the excitement and the temptation which was placed before you".

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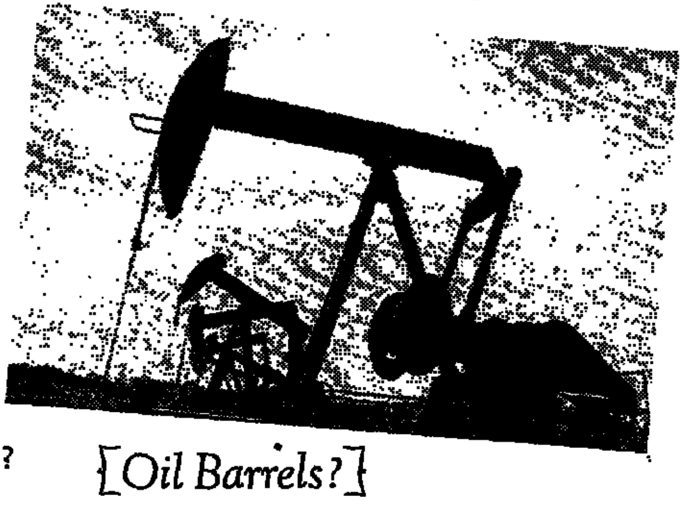

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[illegible]

[illegible]

Release of files from the Special Operations Executive reveals attempts to destabilise Axis powers

Britain feared rebirth of Nazism in Hungary

By Alan Hamilton

BRITISH intelligence feared, in the closing months of the Second World War, that Hungary might become a last redoubt of Nazism and a fertile seedbed for its regrouping after the collapse of Hitler's Germany.

Secret papers from the Special Operations Executive, released after 50 years by the Public Record Office yesterday, disclose a catalogue of plans to infiltrate Budapest and other Hungarian cities to sabotage the German army's withdrawal and to prevent a link-up between Nazi sympathisers in the two countries. Many of the plans failed.

A memorandum from the SOE to the Foreign Office, written in September 1944, notes: "It is obvious that, as after the last war, now again there will be contact between the natural enemies of democratic change in Germany and in Hungary. Hungary could be that corner in which the cornered rat — Hitlerism — puts up its last fight." Based on information from British agents in Budapest, the memorandum says that the most likely sources of Nazi resurgence after a German surrender would be the Junkers — the great German landowners — the Christian industrialists and the Prussian militarists, all of whom were classes of German society essentially opposed to democracy.

They would link up with their Hungarian equivalents, especially the landowning gentry, to create a powerbase for a resurgence of National Socialism, which it was feared would have wide appeal in both countries. "The same forces, movements and personalities that sabotaged the change to true democracy in Germany and Hungary [after the First World War] will operate again," the memorandum says.

"Nazism or fascism is really an opportunistic impertinence presented by skilled demagogues in constantly varied forms. Their propaganda is varied to reach all ears," the secret memo states. It adds that the Hungarian army's general staff, largely composed of officers of Austrian origin from Hapsburg imperial days, had co-operated fully with the Gestapo and many had been trained by the SS.

British agents had some success in penetrating Hungary, which was regarded as the best route by which to place agents within the Reich. Their main problem was Admiral Horthy, the puppet Regent of Hungary, who was approached on several occasions by a British agent, known only as "H", and urged to surrender to the Russians at a time when his country was Germany's last ally in Europe.

Horthy wavered, unable to make up his mind. "H" reported that Horthy tended to believe the last person he spoke to, and unfortunately he spoke to his German puppeteers more often than to a British agent.

Admiral Horthy with Hitler in Germany in 1938. Six years later he was imprisoned in Bavaria after defying Hitler by appealing to the Allies for an armistice

One scheme considered by SOE for the destabilisation of Hungary in its last days of occupation, and for the harrying of the retreating Wehrmacht, involved recruiting large numbers of Jews still living in Hungary. It was calculated that they would sooner risk their lives shooting Germans in Budapest than be transported to the extermination camps of Poland.

By 1944 the Germans had killed an estimated 400,000 Hungarian Jews but about 300,000 remained, living in fear of the next train to Treblinka. An agent named Shertock, representing the Jewish Agency in London, wrote to Randolph Churchill, the Prime Minister's son, offering to mobilise hundreds of Jewish saboteurs in Hungary.

Churchill backed the SOE's idea, but it was overtaken by the advance of the Red Army. The Junkers and the old Austro-Hungarian gentry were in the thrall of communists before they had a chance to regroup.

☐ Rival wooing of Tito and his Yugoslav partisans near the end of the war caused a rift between the British and Russian intelligence communities, the secret papers disclose. The British were already in touch with the freedom fighters of the Balkan mountains through the celebrated Brigadier Fitzroy Maclean. Anthony Eden, the Foreign Secretary, was happy to accede to a request from Molotov, his Soviet counterpart, that the Russians should attach a small group of officers to the British contact mission.

But General Sir Colin Gubbins, head of the SOE, reacted with fury when he discovered that the Russian delegation included political commissars and espionage experts, and was led by a lieutenant-general compared with Britain's brigadier.

Heydrich's assassins expected to sacrifice their lives

By A Staff Reporter

THE British-trained agents who assassinated Reinhard Heydrich, deputy head of the Gestapo, carried suicide pills when they parachuted into Czechoslovakia in December 1941. One of the planning reports released yesterday says: "They know that they cannot come out of the attempt alive."

Jan Kubis and Josef Gabcik waited nearly five months for their chance to kill Heydrich. According to a British report, one of them threw a bomb at his car as it rounded a corner in Prague. "At the same time, the second man fired a sub-machine gun or automatic rifle. Heydrich was hit by at least one bullet, which has since been removed from the neck." He died of his wounds nine days later. Kubis and Gabcik were betrayed to the Gestapo and never seen again.

The assassination of Heydrich, known as the Butcher of Prague for his atrocities there, brought appalling reprisals on civilians. The Nazis deported populations of whole villages to concentration camps. The site of Lidice, reduced to rubble, remains untouched as a memorial to the thousands of inhabitants who were murdered.

Heydrich: atrocities

Warsaw's pleas for help went unheeded in Britain

By John Young

INCREASINGLY desperate appeals to Britain to send help to Poles fighting the Germans in the Warsaw rising of the summer of 1944 were dogged by prevarication and finally rejected on military advice. The Poles surrendered in the autumn.

Documents from the Special Operations Executive disclose that the chiefs of staff feared that losses of aircraft would be unacceptably high and might endanger the success of the campaign in northwest Europe.

General S Tabor, London representative of the General Officer Commanding the Secret Army in Poland, considered that "indispensable" British assistance included the bombing of Warsaw, Cracow and Lodz "on the greatest possible scale"; Polish aircraft to be allowed to land in Warsaw; all or part of the Polish Independent Parachute Brigade to land as a token force; and material aid to include machineguns and anti-tank weapons.

The request was passed on to Lord Selborne, Minister for Economic Warfare, by Major General C. McV. Gubbins, head of the SOE.

On August 2, the Polish Ambassador told the Foreign Office that instructions had been given for a general rising, that more than 40,000 armed men had been mobilised in the Warsaw district, and that 175,000 men would take part across the country. Two days later Air Marshal Sir John Slessor, Chief of the Air Staff, declared that air support was not practicable.

On August 11, Lord Selborne passed on to Churchill a message from Warsaw. "We are conducting a bloody fight," it read. "The town is cut by three routes, all strongly held by German tanks. The soldiers and the population of the capital look hopelessly at the skies, expecting help from the Allies."

A day later the insurgents reported all available sources of arms and ammunition on the verge of exhaustion. Defeat would result in the annihilation of the Polish forces and the extermination of the civilian population.

They held out for a few more weeks. On September 27 a despairing message made a final, vain appeal for ammunition, food and medical supplies. At 7.30pm on October 3, Radio Warsaw broadcast news of the surrender.

Plan for Poles to pose as Haitians

By John Young

A BIZARRE plan for exiled Poles to masquerade as diplomats from Central and South America to mount wartime intelligence operations in European capitals is disclosed in documents of the British Special Operations Executive made available yesterday.

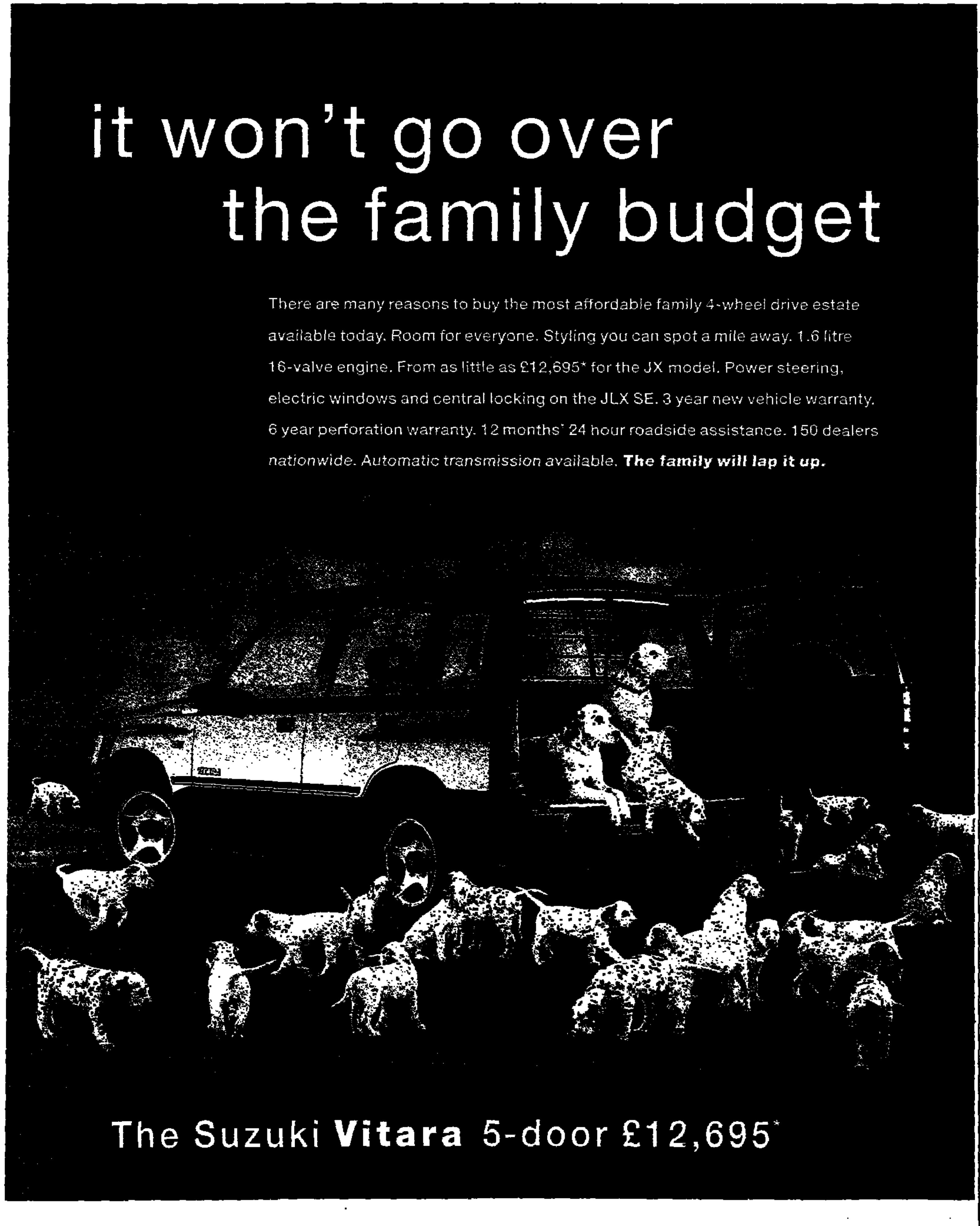
The plan was put forward in January 1941 by Adolf Kon, a Polish Jew who had been his country's consul-general in Haiti and was the exiled government's chargé d'affaires in New York. British intelligence described him as "a most unattractive type".

Nevertheless a Colonel Wilkinson of the SOE Polish section took his proposals seriously, according to the documents released by the Public Record Office. "The Haitian Foreign Office would be happy to appoint Kon's nominees to the ostensibly paid, but actually unpaid, posts of chargés d'affaires of the Haitian Republic to various European capitals," he reported.

Similar "services" could be rendered by Honduras and Nicaragua, "and by the Bolivian Foreign Office which would, in view of its high reputation for integrity, be the best but would also cost the most".

The newly appointed "diplomatic representatives" would set up legations, "each with a staff of at least one secretary and a doorkeeper". The cost of establishing a legation and maintaining it for a year was put at $15,000, which the SOE was expected to supply.

"The scheme seems attractive," Colonel Wilkinson wrote. "The only weak point immediately evident is that the foreign offices in question might, once having been paid, proceed to sell the information to Germany."



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Widows of Chinook victims accuse MoD of betrayal

By Nicholas Watt, Ireland Correspondent

WIDOWS of the anti-terrorism experts who died when an RAF helicopter crashed into the Mull of Kintyre just over a year ago accused the Government yesterday of dishonouring their husbands' names.

The women, speaking in Belfast at the launch of a campaign for greater compensation, said they felt betrayed by the Ministry of Defence. Their solicitors say that the Government intends to make a lump-sum payment of just £110,000 each on top of their husbands' pensions.

All 29 people on board the Chinook helicopter died in the crash during a flight from Belfast to Scotland, where the experts were to attend an anti-terrorism conference. The victims included ten members of the RUC Special Branch and nine Army officers.

The widows could be entitled to payments ranging from £250,000 to £500,000 if they sued for loss of earnings. Dr Susan Phoenix, 45, widow of Detective Superintendent Ian Phoenix, broke down as she said that the Government placed no value on her husband and wanted only to save money. "I feel immense sadness that this had to happen ... We are saying to the Government: you are dishonest, you have dishonoured our men and we are very very sad.

"Perhaps the Government thought they had some nice little ladies here in Northern Ireland who would not kick up a fuss. Well, they didn't know our husbands and they didn't know us."

Jill Davidson, 45, widow of Detective Superintendent Philip Davidson, said: "There is no one in this world who thinks I am the most special person in their life. You can't replace that with money but you can stand up for what they stood up for."

Aidan Canavan, a solicitor representing 14 of the widows, claimed that the MoD planned to compensate the widows under the Warsaw Convention. The helicopter flight would be described as a civilian transport undertaking, which would lead to payment of a fixed sum.

He wrote yesterday to Malcolm Rifkind, the Defence Secretary, demanding an assurance that the Government would not take that course. Mr Canavan said the widows would sue if their compensation was restricted to £110,000.

It is understood that the report into the accident, expected to be published within weeks, will blame pilot error. The MoD said yesterday that it could not comment until the widows had been told of the inquiry's conclusion.

ALAN LEWIS

One of the widows yesterday. They plan to sue the Government unless it offers them adequate compensation

Kegworth family awarded £338,000

By a Staff Reporter

THE family of Kathleen Ryan, one of 47 people killed in the M1 plane crash at Kegworth in 1989, were awarded £338,764 damages at the High Court yesterday.

The compensation for her husband Michael and their four sons, aged 15 to 23, included the £3,600 cost of a memorial headstone. The judge, Sir Michael Davies, said it was "only reasonable" that the family should want "a striking and impressive memorial to her".

Mrs Ryan, a 41-year-old home help from Kenton, northwest London, was "a devoted wife and mother and a conscientious and determined woman", he said.

The damages are to be paid by British Midland Airways and four other companies responsible for the supply and construction of the engines of the Boeing 737-400 which crashed near Kegworth. They all admitted liability.

Fear of litigation makes smear test staff overcautious

By Jeremy Laurance, Health Correspondent

FEAR of being sued is causing a huge increase in the numbers of women diagnosed as having abnormal cervical smears, researchers say today.

Staff in screening laboratories are so afraid of litigation if they miss a case of cancer that they are detecting more than twice as many women with minor abnormalites as ten years ago. Most of the women turn out to have no serious disease and worry needlessly.

Researchers in Bristol say that one in ten young women is identified as being at risk of the cancer but only one in many thousands will be affected. Despite the striking increase in minor abnormalities there has been no corresponding increase in severe abnormalities.

Dr Angela Raffle and colleagues say in *The Lancet* that in the past decade there have been many threatened court cases over the reading of smears. "Staff live in fear of being blamed for failing to prevent cases of invasive cancer. The desire to avoid overdiagnosis, which in the past kept the detection rates low, has now been outweighed by the need to avoid any possibility of being held responsible for missing a case."

The authors say that in Bristol 15,000 women were told something was amiss with their smears between 1988 and 1993. More than 5,500 were referred for further investigation and treatment "for a disease that would never have troubled them and are being left with problems that include lasting worries about cancer, difficulties in obtaining life insurance and worries concerning the effect of their treatment on their subsequent reproductive ability".

The researchers also say that despite the high detection of abnormal smears, the cervical screening scheme has had no effect on the death rate from cervical cancer in Bristol.

This claim is rejected by Professor David Skegg, a leading authority on screening, who says it is too early for the national programme, introduced in 1988, to have affected the death rate. He says an increase in the disease in women under 40, linked with a period of greater sexual freedom, has made screening more important.

Catherine Luke, of the cervical screening programme, said: "We don't want to cause any unnecessary anxiety but we feel where there is doubt it is better to err on the side of caution. It is an unacceptably high risk not to investigate or treat something that could develop into a life-threatening condition."

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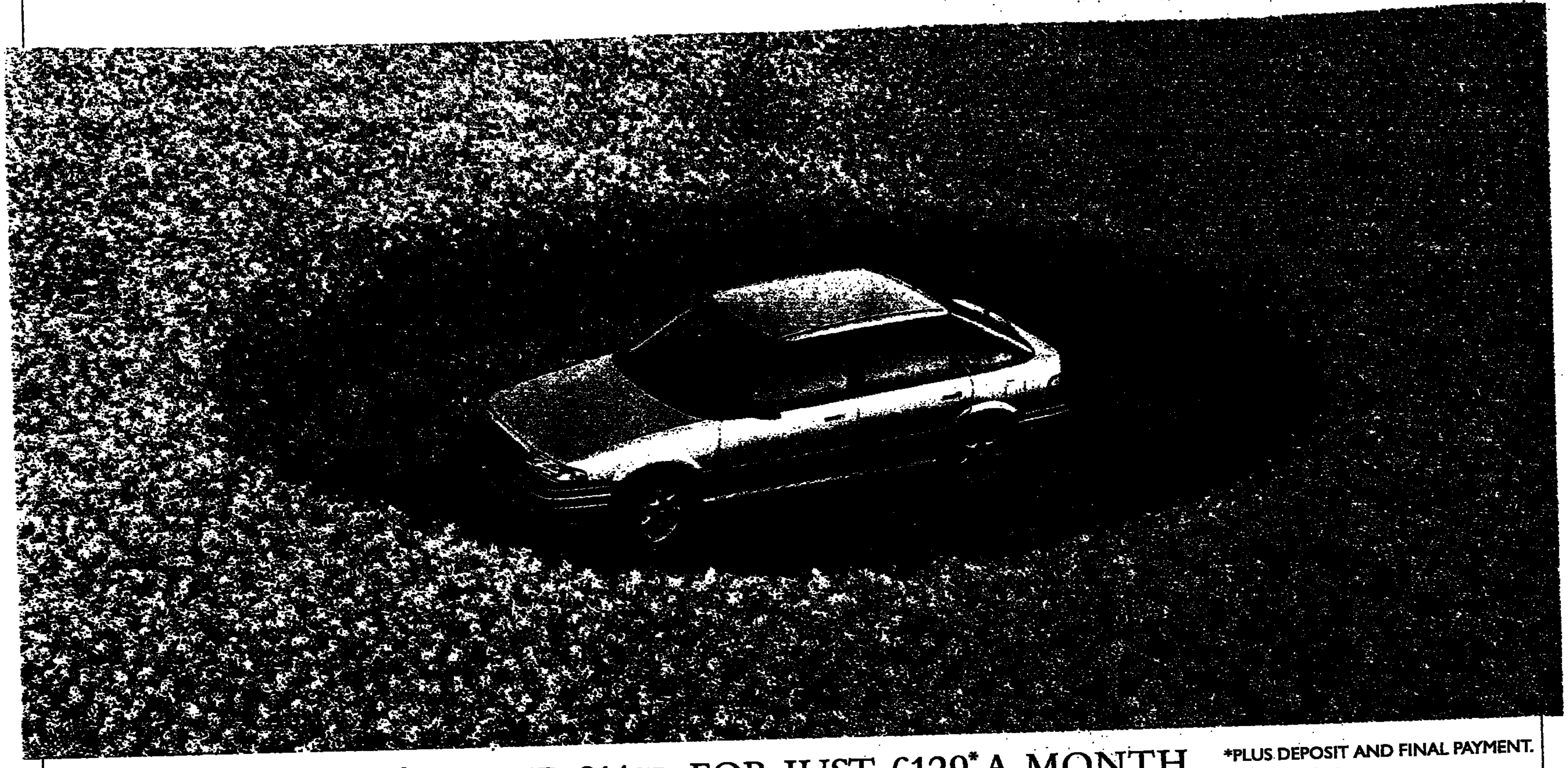

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Fresh infusion 'could boost economy, arts and sport'

'Negative' immigration policy wrong, says bishop

By Richard Ford, Home Correspondent

BRITAIN'S first Asian bishop urged the Government yesterday to promote immigration to remedy skill shortages and boost the economy, arts and sports.

Dr Michael Nazir-Ali, Bishop of Rochester, who was born and educated in Pakistan, said that every country needed fresh infusions of blood to enrich life and culture. Asian immigrants could provide much-needed skills in small businesses to revitalise local communities and create jobs.

Britain needed a positive immigration policy rather than the measures planned by the Government to counter illegal immigration, speed up asylum procedures and curb benefits for asylum seekers. "I think they are wrong," he said. "All the studies show that people who come in from outside enrich the arts, sport and business. The country needs their skills and talents."

The Bishop, who was appointed a year ago, called on ministers to investigate the needs of the country and, within limits, adopt a positive immigration policy. "We need a policy that sets out the needs of the country and how these can be met by people willing to adapt to life here," he said.

Canada, the United States and Australia had adopted policies that limited immigration but ensured that people with new ideas and new skills were allowed in, he told BBC Radio 4's *Today* programme. "The term 'economic migrant' has become almost a term of abuse. Many of the people who come here for economic reasons are very highly motivated and have a positive impact on the economy."

However, there could be no return to a policy of open-door immigration, he said, and those who wished to enter must be prepared to live in British society.

The Bishop highlighted a study that said immigration restrictions deprived British businesses of professional and managerial skills. The report, *Strangers and Citizens*, said: "The Government's negative attitude to immigration has sold the country short.

Nazir-Ali: ideas wanted

"It has failed to reap the economic benefits from selective skilled migrations, forgone the investment and jobs which entrepreneurs could provide and prevented companies from benefiting from inter-company transfers."

The report, published by the left-wing think-tank Institute for Public Policy Research, said changes in immigration policy could bring economic benefits in the form of skilled labour and an inflow of investors and entrepreneurs from overseas. One argument in support of a less restrictive immigration policy was that immigrants created jobs rather than filled them. It suggested a more selective immigration policy that would take greater account of the needs of the economy.

"It would see positive economic potential in many of the persons who apply to enter as refugees and it would switch from a philosophy of excluding potential migrants to 'protect' the status quo, to a system of positive selection of those immigrants with most to contribute to Britain," the report said.

At Your Service, Weekend, page 2

MARTIN KEENE

The Princess of Wales aboard a boat in Venice yesterday after visiting the Biennale modern art show, where her attention was captured by an exhibit with kicking robotic legs. The Princess ended her two-day official visit to the city in the afternoon

Teacher cleared in ballet trip row

By Ben Preston

A LESBIAN head teacher was cleared yesterday of turning down a ballet trip for her pupils because *Romeo and Juliet* was about heterosexual love.

A panel of governors also rejected claims of impropriety surrounding the appointment of Jane Brown as head teacher of Kingsmead Primary School in Hackney, east London. She shares a home with the woman who was chairman of the governors at the time of her appointment.

The governors' inquiry report recommends that no further action be taken against Ms Brown, 37.

Hackney council, which had previously questioned the impartiality of the inquiry, said yesterday that it was waiting for a copy of the report before commenting.

Claims that Ms Brown had turned down the offer of free tickets to the Royal Opera House because the performance was "too heterosexist" caused a furore last year and were raised in the Commons.

[redacted]

Why I gave up the Services for life as a servant

George Austin

FORTY years ago, on Sunday June 5, 1955, I was ordained deacon in Blackburn Cathedral. It was not how I had planned my life. In 1949, after National Service, I had intended to sign on for a permanent career in the RAF. The priesthood had been a nagging call in the background, but I had thought I would make a better pilot than parson. It was not to be: a medical condition that gave me no trouble before it was discovered and has given none since was enough to gain me a discharge.

The MO who signed my papers asked what I would do instead. When I mentioned the priesthood, his anxious face betrayed the fear that there must be some undetected psychological condition as well as the physical. In secular terms he was probably right to be concerned. Here before him was a moderately bright young man, with the possibility of a well-paid career carrying reasonable promotion prospects.

Fifteen years later I became vicar of my first parish with a stipend equivalent today to £9,000 a year. It was hardly enough to live on, even with the free house, and without a working wife it would have been hard. After our son was born it was very hard, and hand-outs from friends and occasionally from the bishop helped to make ends meet. But the priesthood is not about money, nor indeed about much that the world holds dear. Perhaps it is here that the nature of priesthood carries with it a message for a wider society, that we were created for a purpose which may possibly not be centred on how much wealth we can amass, or on how successful we can be in climbing a ladder of ambition: that service to the community is a more valuable contribution than power and status.

Servants, service, served: in speaking of the priesthood it is impossible to move far from those words. The Pope rightly rejoices in the title of *servus servorum Dei*, for he, no less than the most humble minister, is meant to be a servant of the servants of God. I could not pretend that I have lived to the ideal of priesthood, but I can say that it was an ideal which was drummed into me all those years ago at my seminary — that we were to be servants not rulers; that we were priests who served for 24 hours a day, not for a 40-hour week; that we were never to seek promotion or preferment, but if it came, it came only for greater service; that we would often be most successful when we might believe we had failed; and always that we remember we served one who chose to die on a cross rather than bow to cheap popularity.

And when God calls his priests, He never suggests it is going to be easy. The priest will meet his times of darkness, will travel through his own valley of death's shadow, only to discover at the other end that, as always, the Shepherd had been with him. There will be occasions when he will come face to face with evil or temptation; and he will look back and realise that he had come through his time of trial in another's strength rather than his own. But service is at the heart of it all.

It has not always been the easiest of lives, but I make no complaint. Now, 40 years on, I can truly say that I would have wished for no other life for, alongside a happy marriage and loving family, it has brought total fulfilment.

The Ven George Austin is Archdeacon of York

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مكتامن الأعمال

6

Greenpeace cleans up as North Sea ministers bicker

FROM NICK NUTTALL
IN ESBJERG

A MINISTERIAL conference charged with cleaning up the North Sea ended yesterday with a string of small wins for conservation and wildlife, and a resounding victory for the publicity machine of environmental campaigners.

Throughout the conference in Denmark, groups such as Greenpeace managed to force up the political agenda what was due to be a minor issue, the dumping of oil installations. It triggered fierce exchanges between the conference nations, all of which except Switzerland border the North Sea. John Gummer, the Environment Secretary, was involved in attacks on several other nations, particularly Denmark and its Environment Minister, Svend Auken.

Greenpeace found a rich vein in exploiting personal differences between the two men. Mr Auken accused Britain of environmental vandalism over the dumping of the obsolete Brent Spar oil platform; Mr Gummer retaliated yesterday by accusing the Danes of "raping the North Sea" through its uncontrolled sand-eel fishery.

Belgium, France, Sweden, The Netherlands, Germany and Denmark put forward a resolution calling for oil and gas platforms to be disposed of on land. Mr Gummer accused them of lacking the political will to tackle the real threat facing the North Sea, which he said was overfishing.

Gummer: accused Danes

The conference failed to agree on tougher fish quotas, regulation of sand-eel fishing or a number of other fish conservation measures. They agreed only that European fisheries and environment ministers would meet next year in Norway.

Mr Gummer accused the Danish Government of being "in the pocket" of its substantial fishing industry. "We feel our fishermen quite rightly complain about getting a bad deal and yet we are not protecting stocks for the present generation, let alone the next." He also turned his fire on Greenpeace and claimed that it refused to fight the fishing issue because "you can't raise money from slithery creatures like fish". He accused other nations of bowing to Greenpeace's publicity machine. "Other countries do not believe the Brent Spar is a hazard but they are worried about the public concern in their own countries."

Norway, which has supported Britain's position of treating the disposal of oil platforms case by case, said later that it would dispose of its first big platform, North East Frigg, on land.

The arguments overshadowed several important decisions, such as the agreement to declare all the North Sea, and the Atlantic approaches to Britain, a special area. Shipping will be required to burn clean fuels and end the discharge of oily wastes, chemicals and rubbish.

The conference also agreed to phase out discharges of hazardous wastes such as heavy metals. However, Britain stood alone in saying that it would not back the plan and instead pledged to reduce discharges rather than halt them.

Britain was also isolated in opposing a plan to declare the sea a protected area from nutrient discharges, mainly via agricultural run-off and sewage.

Leading article, page 19

JOHN HOULIHAN

Darnbrook Farm, bought from the Moores family with £600,000 of lottery money

Lottery cash goes to pools magnates

By PAUL WILKINSON

ALMOST £600,000 from the National Lottery has been used to help to buy a farm owned by the family that runs the Littlewoods pools empire.

Yesterday Richard Turner, agent for the company's chairman, John Moores, acknowledged "a gentle irony" in the Moores family receiving money from something that has severely dented pools betting.

The grant, made via the National Heritage Memorial Fund, enabled the National Trust to pay £790,000 for Darnbrook Farm, which borders Malham Tarn near Settle in North Yorkshire. Its 2,854 acres, mostly on Pennine limestone, adjoin almost 4,500 acres already controlled by the trust.

Part of the area is within the Malham site of special scientific interest, which is being considered under European Union directives for designation as a Special Area for Conservation. Known as the Craven Limestone Complex, its moorland areas are noted for their bird population, including upland waders such as golden plover, curlew and dunlin. The area also contains rare plant species such as bird's eye primrose and baneberry.

The Moores have run the farm for more than 20 years, rearing Aberdeen Angus cattle from their pedigree herd at the farm where they live in Formby, Merseyside.

Maxwell trial QC collapses in court

By MICHAEL HORSNELL

THE Maxwell fraud trial at the Old Bailey was adjourned yesterday after a barrister collapsed while cross-examining a witness.

Proceedings were only an hour old when Michael Hill, QC, defending the former Maxwell group executive Larry Trachtenberg, slumped into his seat after telling the judge: "I'm sorry, this is simply not going to work."

He had been cross-examining Trevor Cook, pensions administrator to the Maxwell publishing empire. Mr Justice Phillips told the jury: "Mr Hill was not feeling well when we started this morning. He valiantly did his best to carry on. But he is simply unable to continue."

The trial will resume on Tuesday. A spokeswoman at Mr Hill's chambers said later that he was recovering at home and expected to resume duties next week.

Mr Hill was asking Mr Cook about £22 million of pension fund shares in the Israeli company Teva Pharmaceutical Industries. Mr Cook, 45, denied that he had known for months that the shares were with brokers and no longer in the safe keeping of Israeli lawyers.

Mr Hill asked Mr Cook whether he was expecting criticism in a forthcoming report by the Trade Department on Mirror Group Newspapers. He replied: "I feel there may be, yes."

Navy promises to guard tuna boats

BY MICHAEL HORNSBY, AGRICULTURE CORRESPONDENT

BRITAIN warned Spain yesterday that all necessary action would be taken to protect British boats fishing for tuna in the Atlantic against harassment by Spanish vessels.

The first Cornish boats are expected to sail from Newlyn towards the end of next week. By the end of the month up to a dozen are expected to have joined the fleet fishing for albacore tuna 500 miles southwest of Land's End.

William Waldegrave, the Agriculture Minister, said: "It is unacceptable that UK vessels should be prevented from legitimate fishing as a result of harassment or damage by other vessels. We shall be doing all that we can to ensure that they are not."

He added: "We shall ensure that there is a Royal Naval presence in the tuna fishery from the outset. The fishery protection presence is to perform the dual role of ensuring that there is no question of the rules being broken and of taking the necessary action to prevent harassment of our people."

Last summer, Royal Navy fisheries protection vessels arrived on the scene too late to prevent the nets of several British trawlers from being damaged by Spanish boats, and then added insult to injury in the eyes of the fishermen by confiscating the nets of one of the British skippers for being too long.

Captain Christopher Morrison, who commands the Royal Navy's fisheries protection fleet of six patrol boats and three minesweepers, said yesterday: "On the high seas we have no power to board a Spanish or any other foreign vessel. But if our trawlermen keep us informed of their whereabouts, we can make sure we are in the right place at the right time."

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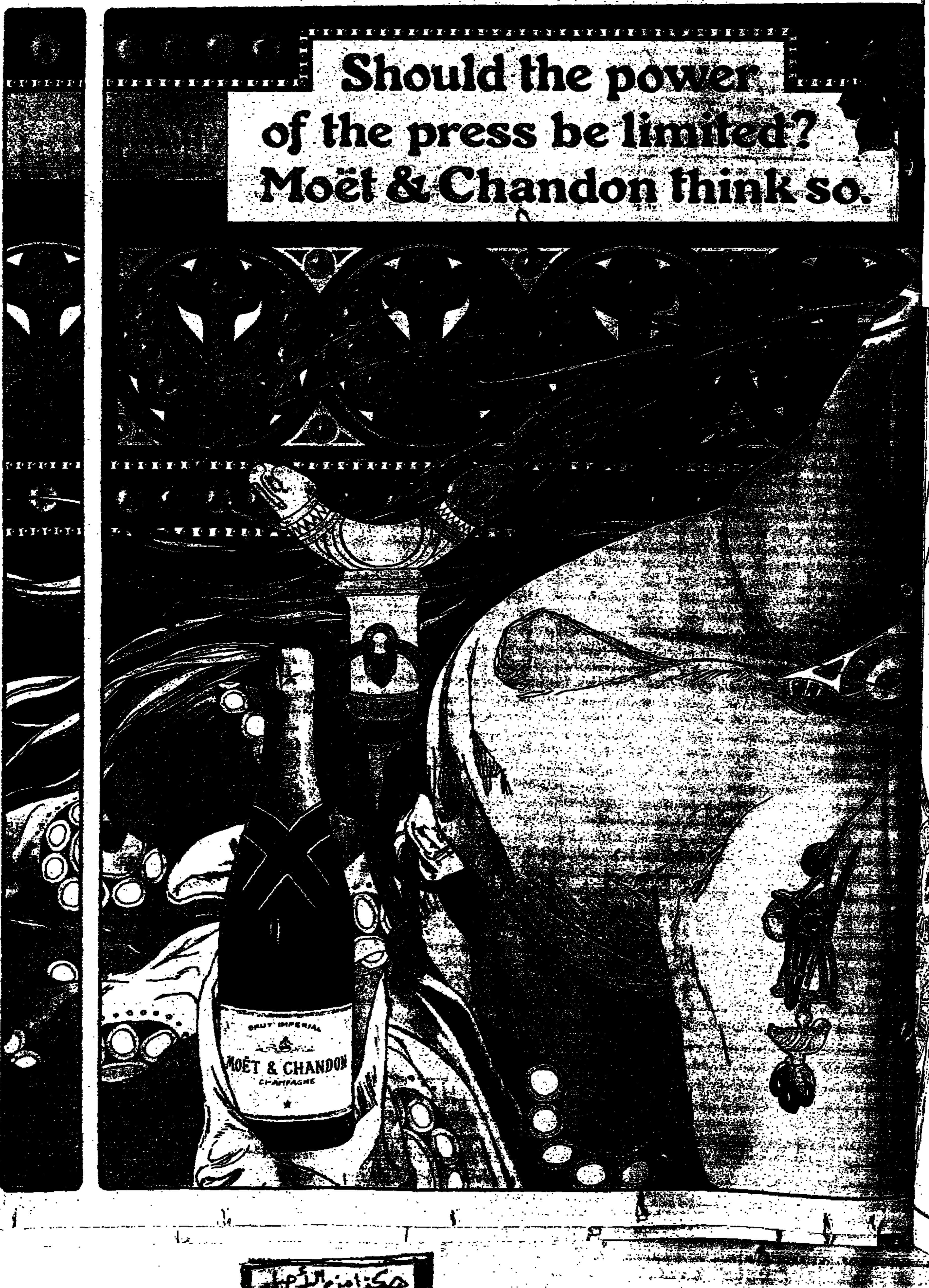
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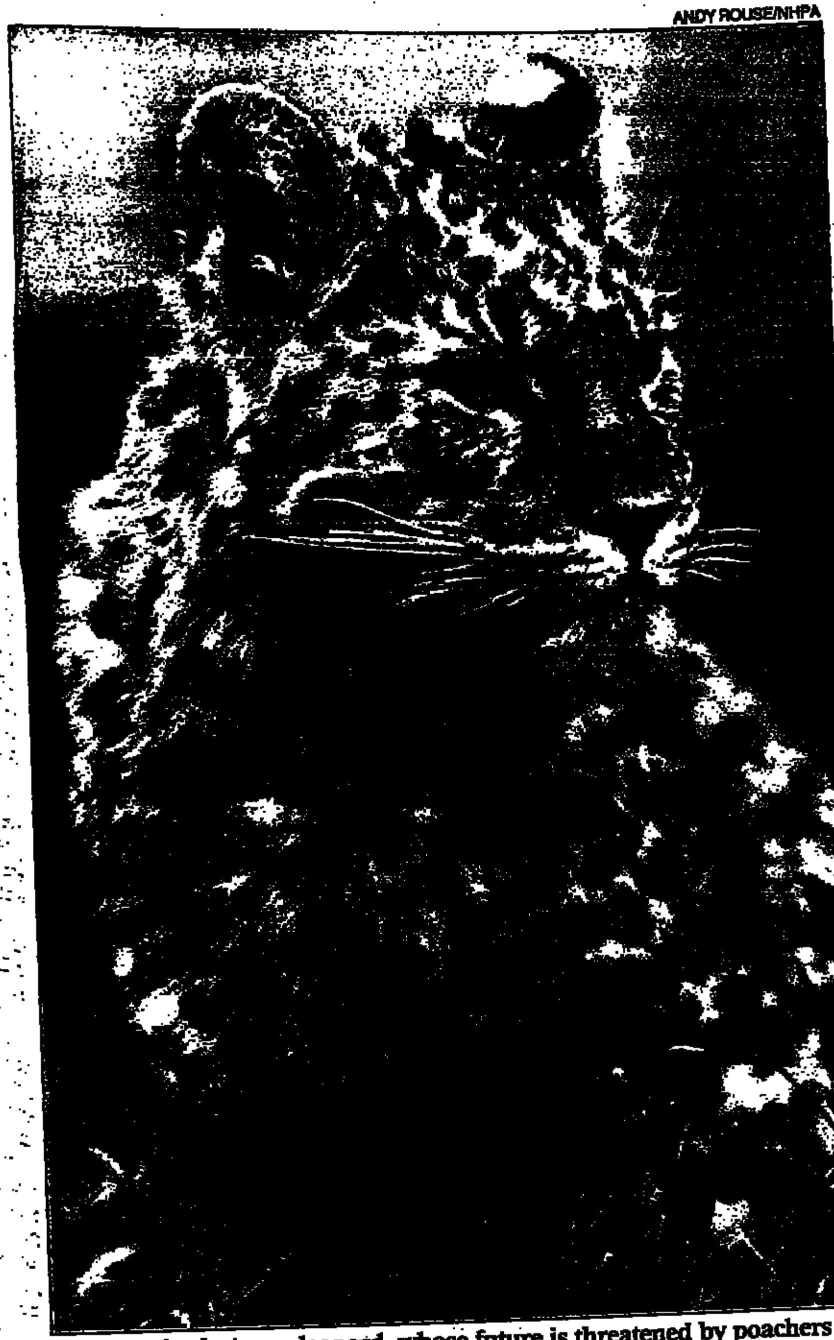
Time running out for the endangered Amur leopard and Siberian tiger in the wild east of Russia

ANDY ROUSE/NHPA



The majestic Amur leopard, whose future is threatened by poachers

Poachers seal rare cats' fate

FROM RICHARD BEESTON IN KEDROVAYA PAD

BENEATH the dense green canopy of this forest game reserve, the final chapter in a tragic conflict is taking place as the last great cats of Russia's Far East fight a losing battle against human encroachment and greed.

The Amur leopard and the Siberian tiger, which once roamed the rugged hills and forests of this wilderness, are only years away from extinction, victims of rampant poaching, over-development and indifference. "We occasionally get a signal from a tagged leopard or see their tracks in the forest, but it is becoming more and more rare to have any contact with them," said Sasha Zayev, a ranger at this reserve, the last 70 square miles of protected habitat for the magnificent but elusive spotted cat.

There are only between 20 and 40 of the animals left in the wild, and the park estimates that it loses between four and seven of the rare felines every year.

"There are plans for setting up new reserves and experimenting in breeding leopards from the wild with those raised in zoos," Mr Zayev said. "But we do not have any time left. The leopard's future looks bleak." The Siberian tiger, the world's largest cat, is slightly better off since its population is estimated at 200 in Russia's Far East, after it was hunted almost to extinction in neighbouring Korea and China. However, the 9ft-long animal, which can weigh up to 500lb, is also more sought after than the leopard, since it is worth an estimated £6,250 on the black market for its skin and its body parts, which are used in traditional Chinese medicine.

Since Russia opened its borders in the Far East, trading in the endangered species has become a lucrative business, alongside gun-running, drugs trafficking and smuggling. The tiger suffered another setback this month when one of the six game reserves in the Russian Far East was devastated by a fire.

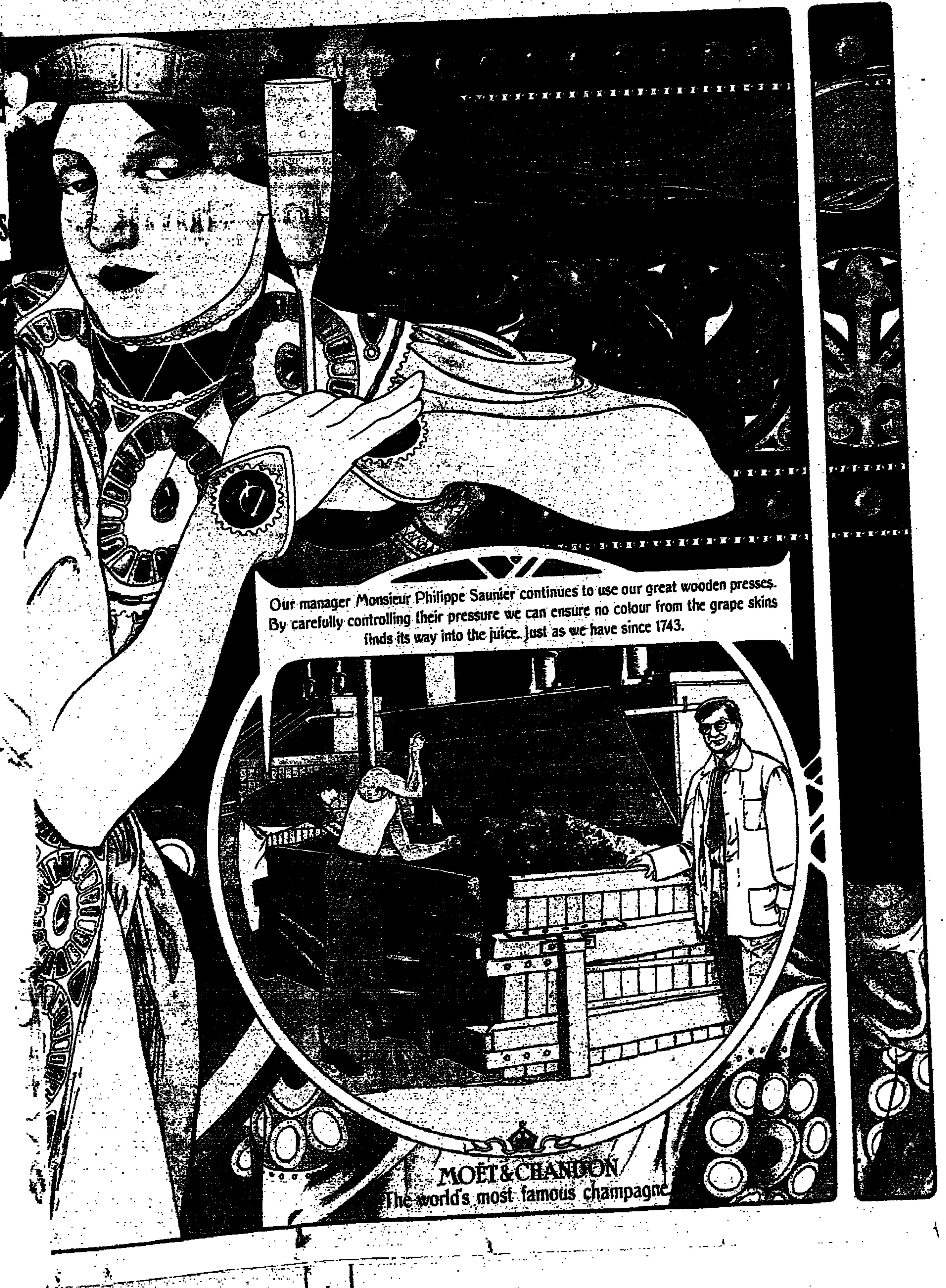
Sergeant Aleksei Shavronsky, a policeman who patrols the border areas with China, admitted that the authorities were too overstretched dealing with smuggling and illegal immigration to have any time for poachers. "I have lived here all my life, and it breaks my heart to think that when my children grow up they will not see these majestic animals in the wild," he said. Although many wildlife experts believe that the battle is already lost to save the leopard, and that time is running out for the tiger, efforts are finally being made by Russian and Western environmentalists to save the animals.

The World Wide Fund for Nature is helping to finance an anti-poaching operation that sends trackers into the forest regions to confiscate traps, harass poachers and prod the authorities into action.

Since they began their work the trackers have discovered 164 violations, confiscated 44 guns and recovered 14 tiger skins, which they then destroyed. However, the operation has failed to win a single conviction against alleged poachers, who in some cases work in co-operation with the local mafia and the authorities. "People are going through a difficult time at the moment, so the problems of a few tigers and leopards are not going to concern them," said Vladimir Shchetinin, who heads the anti-poaching operations centered in Vladivostok. "I am afraid that in 30 years we will have forgotten all about the tiger, and in a decade the leopard will already be a distant memory."

ERNEST JANES/NHPA

The Siberian tiger, the world's largest cat, of which only 200 remain



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New drug barons open floodgates in East Europe

BY ROGER BOYES

THEY are the new men of the East, shadowy pony-tailed drug barons with such underworld nicknames as Glasseye, the Boxer and Salamander. From the capitals of Central and Eastern Europe they are embarking on huge operations to smuggle cocaine, heroin and other hard drugs into the European Union.

The Colombian drug cartels, says Jurgen Storbeck, the Europol drugs unit co-ordinator, have not abandoned their traditional routes through Spain or the harbours of Rotterdam, Hamburg and Antwerp, and major airports. But they have been re-routing cocaine and heroin shipments through Eastern Europe. "The Balkan route, the classic supply route for heroin deliveries to Western Europe, has shifted north and east and now runs partly through Ukraine, Russia and Poland," Herr Storbeck said.

Even more disturbing is the tendency for the drug barons to set up independent laboratories in post-communist countries. This is sometimes a joint venture with South American gangs, but most of the criminal enterprise is home-made.

Poland has become the third largest producer of amphetamines in Europe, accounting for between 15 and 20 per cent. Hungarian drug laboratories last year produced large quantities of amphetamine derivatives, and a large factory for producing them was recently discovered in Riga.

"There is a specially dangerous situation in the former Soviet Union," said Herr Storbeck, whose unit monitors European drug flows. "Large quantities of opium, cannabis and ephedrine are being cultivated in Kazakhstan, Kirghizia, Uzbekistan, Tajikistan and Russia, and there is an increasing trend to refine these products there."

Western anti-drug units are trying to tip off the East Europeans whenever it is feasible. A few days ago Poles, acting on information from the West, found large watertight bags full of Colombian cocaine strapped to the keel of a Greek freighter docked in Gdansk. The haul had a street value of more that £20 million.

Earlier in May the Poles found nine tonnes of Nigerian hashish under a cargo of herrings. A big heroin shipment hidden in a lorry was also intercepted last month on the Slovak-Hungarian border.

Throughout the region drug trafficking is on the increase. Romanians last year seized more than twice as much heroin as in 1993; Hungarian drug seizures have trebled since 1990. That may partly be due to increased vigilance and better co-ordination with the West, but it mainly reflects the volume of drugs now passing from East to West.

Organised crime, not just the drug-dealing gangs, is also exploiting the relatively porous new borders in Central Europe. Even with the tighter external controls imposed after the Schengen agreement this spring, customs services are no match for the cross-border smugglers grouped into regional "mafias".

For the West this is a classic border policing problem; a question of swapping intelligence on drug gangs as quickly as possible, tracking suspects across frontiers, plugging the gap. It is here that the Schengen Information System and Europol in The Hague can help, but the police want more, and both the British police and the FBI have become involved in training post-communist police agents.

Berlusconi showgirls woo TV reform voters

FROM JOHN PHILLIPS IN ROME

THE campaign for Italy's referendum on television power ended last night after Silvio Berlusconi's flagship Canale Cinque channel staged a variety show with popular stars to persuade voters not to deprive him of two of his three stations.

If Signor Berlusconi loses the vote tomorrow on whether to reform the existing Mammi Law he is likely to lose the leadership of his conservative Freedom Alliance, which fared poorly in regional and elections in March and April.

If voters decide against obliging him to sell, President Scalfaro will come under pressure from the mogul's Forza Italia party to hold an autumn general election to replace the technocratic Government of Lamberto Dini, the Prime Minister.

La Cinque ignored left-wing critics and broadcast a two-and-half-hour gala show last night entitled *La Grande Avventura* (The Great Adventure) "to celebrate the fifteenth anniversary of the foundation of private television", with scantily clad showgirls and variety stars such as Mike Bongiorno, Alberto Castagna and Iva Zanicchi.

Magistrates in Naples disclosed that Signor Berlusconi's brother Paolo was under investigation over alleged cocaine smuggling between Brazil and Italy involving entertainment personalities and sports stars.

Patten yields to China on appeal court delay

FROM JONATHAN MIRSKY IN HONG KONG

CHINA and Britain announced yesterday they had reached agreement to set up a supreme court for Hong Kong only after the colony's handover in 1997.

The accord, delaying establishment of the Court of Final Appeal which will replace the Privy Council in London until after China reassumes sovereignty, came after lengthy talks and marked a concession by the British.

Chris Patten, the Governor, conceded at an extraordinary and packed session of the Legislative Council, the colony's 60-member parliament, that the agreement to set up the Court of Final Appeal after July 1, 1997, was not the best choice — since 1991 Britain has called for a pre-handover court — but was the best the British could do in the face of Chinese intransigence.

Last month, Mr Patten was still maintaining that the litmus test of his Government's honour was the establishment of a Court of Final Appeal before 1997. But only a few days ago, Qian Qichen, the Chinese Foreign Minister, insisted that the court must be set up after the takeover and from then on Mr Patten began saying, rather wistfully, that before 1997 "would have been better". The Governor said this was the best deal the colony could get if it wanted a legal system similar to the current one, where final appeals extend to the Privy Council, which hears about 12 Hong Kong cases annually.

The choice was simple, he said: do a deal with China, or set up a unilateral court that Peking would tear down the day it resumed power. Council members knew the Chinese have already pledged to do exactly that to the present constitutional structure, based on a wide franchise, which is Mr Patten's pride and joy.

Patten: new Bill facing widespread opposition

He also acknowledged that Britain had agreed that China's murky definition of "Acts of State", which in British common law applies only to foreign matters such as declarations of war, could well limit the powers of the court under China's Basic Law, effective from July 1, 1997.

British officials conceded that this could include anything perceived as challenging state power, such as a high official dismissed for political reasons who chose to go to court. Peking can deny this right under the legislation which Britain has now agreed. "Their motivation is to get their hands on the levers of power," one senior official observed.

The Government was expected to gazette the Bill establishing the court, the first step in the legislative process, last night. An unlikely combination of council members has sworn to oppose the Bill. The Liberals, normally pro-Peking, favoured a pre-1997 court, and their leader, Allen Lee, said "never" when asked if he would vote for the measure. He will be joined by Martin Lee, QC, leader of the Democrats, whom Peking terms a counter-revolutionary for his condemnation of the Tiananmen Square killings in 1989 and his calls for much wider democracy than Mr Patten's policies permit.

The agreement, Martin Lee declared, was in Britain's, not Hong Kong's, interest. It was "a common law with Chinese characteristics". After the session, in an attack on Mr Patten as bitter as any from Peking, he said: "Britain long ago stripped the Hong Kong people of their birthright of citizenship. Now it appears that Britain is deliberately robbing us of the only means we had left of protecting ourselves and our rights."

☐ **Peking:** Organisers of an international women's conference have agreed to a Chinese proposal to switch the venue of the meeting in September to a half-built township an hour's drive from Peking. The Chinese had feared that human rights and lesbian groups might stage protests in Tiananmen Square if the sessions were held in the capital.

Leading article, page 19

A rescue worker carries a girl who was in the crashed New Zealand plane, below

Assad is invited to Israel by Rabin

FROM CHRISTOPHER WALKER IN CAIRO

PRESIDENT ASSAD of Syria, previously regarded as one of the most uncompromising of Middle East leaders, is now prepared to reach a peace deal with Israel, according to President Mubarak of Egypt, his closest ally in the Arab world.

The announcement by the Egyptian leader was delivered yesterday after a three-way summit here with Yitzhak Rabin, the Israeli Prime Minister, and Warren Christopher, the United States Secretary of State. The disclosure reinforced the new mood of US-fuelled optimism surrounding the peace process.

Mr Christopher triumphantly claimed that events had "turned a new page" in the recently soured ties between Israel and Egypt. Mr Rabin appeared on Cable News Network's *Larry King Live* programme and invited President Assad to visit Jerusalem for bilateral talks, evoking memories of the 1977 trip by President Sadat of Egypt that transformed political hostilities in the region.

Although President Assad is unlikely to accept Mr Rabin's invitation at the current stage of negotiations, he has ordered the Syrian media to adopt a soft line towards Israel.

"I think President Assad is very serious about reaching a peace agreement," Mr Mubarak said in Cairo's al-Ittihadiya Palace. "I think this time President Assad is much more relaxed, much more willing to go through the process ... maybe because of some feeling that there is a good response from the Israeli side. I hope that something will be concluded."

The sudden improvement in Israeli-Syrian exchanges has convinced diplomats that, despite the denials, reports about secret talks in Europe are true. Farez Assad, a nephew of President Assad, has been mentioned as a go-between. One US source said a key factor has been Israel's willingness to pull out completely from the Golan Heights.

Blacks on sidelines of rugby euphoria

FROM INIGO GILMORE IN CAPE TOWN

TOUTED as a vehicle of reconciliation for the new South Africa, the Rugby World Cup has been greeted by blacks here with emotions ranging from unbridled enthusiasm to indifference.

Taking the lead of President Mandela, many blacks have come out in support of the South African rugby side which has adopted the slogan "one team, one country". Television pictures have shown blacks cheering on the white national side and waving flags of the new South Africa.

Given that just over a year ago those same people would have probably supported any team playing against South Africa, it is rightly seen as an encouraging development. Mr Mandela has admitted that he started backing the Springboks only in 1993 because the game was seen as the white man's sport and associated with apartheid. However, the vast majority of blacks have been unable to afford match tickets, resulting in half-full stadiums and virtually all-white crowds.

Benny Alexander, who because of its "colonial overtones" recently changed his name to Xhoisan X!, an outspoken Pan Africanist Congress MP for Gauteng province, which includes Johannesburg and Pretoria, said there is still a long way to go before the image of rugby is significantly altered in South Africa and the World Cup has done little to move that forward. "Black people have been outpriced from taking part in the rugby spectacle" he said. "It has raised some interest in the townships but there is a lot of hard work to be done."

Mr Alexander said that the racial undertones associated with rugby are still strong. He cited a recent game between schoolboys in Alberton, near Johannesburg, which is being investigated by the Transvaal Rugby Football Union over a brawl when the losing white team assaulted their Coloured opponents.

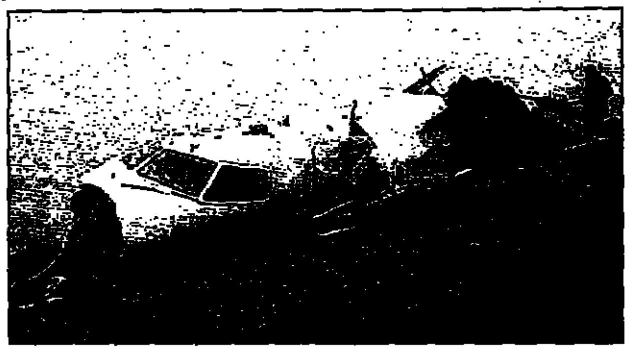
However, the World Cup has generated funds which will be ploughed back into rugby development in the townships and there is a base from which to work. The return of Chester Williams, the only black player in the South African side, for the quarter-final match today should help to stir that interest.

Jan Matseba, 40, a petrol pump attendant, who said that he had always supported visiting teams in the past, declared: "I support the Boks. The players may be white, but they are still South Africans."

Quarter-final previews, pages 38 and 39
Rob Andrew, page 44

Cellphone calls in rescuers

FROM REUTER IN WELLINGTON



THREE people were killed in a New Zealand plane crash yesterday, but 18 were rescued by helicopter after a survivor raised the alarm using his mobile telephone.

The De Havilland Dash 8 belonging to Ansett New Zealand, was flying from Auckland when it crashed in thick cloud near Palmerston North in southern North Island. A police spokesman said the plane caught fire on impact but the blaze was contained. Eighteen people, most with chest, limb and head injuries, were taken to hospital in a rescue involving four helicopters and nine ambulances.

Five people were badly hurt, one with serious burns. A three-year-old had a broken leg and an infant and a girl aged six were unhurt. Poor access and visibility hampered attempts to reach the scene in sparsely populated farmland. A National Rescue Co-ordination Centre spokesman said the passenger who called on his cellphone "was reasonably accurate with his position ... he gave us the first report concerning the number of people on board".

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Guigou's icy glamour chills her opponents

PARIS FILE by CHARLES BREMNER

SPECTATORS at last weekend's bash in Sicily on the future of the European Union were offered a nice study in styles. At one extreme there was David Davis, the pugnacious Foreign Office minister. After laying down an uncompromising British line, Mr Davis looked as if he had been in a fight, his tie askew and collar awry. By contrast there was Elisabeth Guigou, the former French minister, who strolled from the meeting room into the sunlight exuding the icy glamour that has thrown many an unwary interlocutor off his stride.

Mme Guigou, 48, who served as France's frontline negotiator for Maastricht, is now one of two MEPs appointed to the "reflection group" of ministers and officials that is laying the groundwork for the treaty's review. Her performance at the inaugural outing has reminded Union-phobes that this *jolie blonde à la séduction froide*, as a recent book calls her, is a formidable weapon for the federalist camp and advocate for the Euro-parliament. Since winning a seat last year, Mme Guigou, a top technocrat who was born into a modest family in colonial Morocco, has imposed herself as a force in Strasbourg. A one-time attaché at the French Embassy in London, she argued her case in English before the Commons Foreign Affairs Committee in April and famously hung up on Teresa Gorman in a joint telephone interview on the *World at One*.

Her withering hauteur and steel-trap mind, often compared to that of Britain's Iron Lady, is all the more potent in the male-dominated corridors of Euro-power because it comes in a provocative package. "When she used to walk in to chair meetings, it was like a stun-grenade going off," remembers a colleague from her first days in the Government of Edith Cresson five years ago. The former Prime Minister used then to refer to her fearsome junior minister as "my Barbie Doll". Though nearing 50 and the mother of a 15-year-old son, Mme Guigou is not above the occasional flaunt, such as posing this spring for a glamour portrait by Helmut Newton, published by *Paris Match*.

One's mind, however, lingers not on such frivolity when required to match wits with France's former Madame Europe, even if the setting is as heady as the garden of a Sicilian palace. In an hour's chat which elicited barely a smile, she made clear her disdain for the obstructive behaviour of John Major's Government and all others who oppose her goal of Euro-federation. The Union might as well give up right now, she said, if it was going to accept Britain's solitary resistance to majority voting.

She is also sceptical about the proclaimed Euro-enthusiasm of President Chirac. She believes that Jacques Delors, whom she served as a monetary expert when he was Finance Minister in the early 1980s, would have won the presidency for the Socialists had he decided to run. However, the woman once known as the Euro-Joan of Arc, does concede some self-criticism. The attempt to revamp the Union will fail, she says, if every move is not explained to a disenchanted public. "We must tackle things head-on this time. We have to avoid the errors we made before Maastricht when debate was muffled until it was all wrapped up."

MICHELINE PELLETIER/SYGMA

Elisabeth Guigou: a stunning mix of Iron Lady disdain and Barbie Doll allure

To test is to be. Discuss ...

Nearly 700,000 teenagers sat down in unison across the country yesterday to tackle the philosophy test that kicks-off the Baccalauréat exams, the equivalent of A levels.

This gruelling ritual, which is compulsory for all pupils, offers a glimpse of the rigours of the Gallic schooling system. Here, to try out at home, is a sample of the topics on offer for the four-hour essay: Is passion without illusion possible? ... Can everything be justified? ... Can one compare the history of humanity to the history of mankind? ... Can one be indifferent to the truth?

Anti-green agent tells of dilemma

IT IS ten years since the French secret service sank the Greenpeace *Rainbow Warrior* in Auckland harbour, killing a photographer and rocking the Government. Now, reopening the old wound, the woman officer who helped to carry out the operation has just published her own damning account of the fiasco.

Major Dominique Prieur, now 46, was the first woman in the Service Action of the DGSE, the French intelligence service, when she was sent with a colleague to New Zealand, both posing as Swiss tourists. Though never questioning their orders, the team had bad feelings from the outset. "We were surprised by the brutality of an action directed against a movement that was supposed to be inoffensive," she says.

The agents also objected to the "overkill" of the decision to plant two mines on the vessel. Poorly prepared, the operation turned to farce when police arrested "M et Mme Turenge" as they tried to drive away in an easily identifiable camping van.

To their chagrin, the DGSE's "Swiss" passports were swiftly confirmed as forgeries. More incredibly, the French police gave the New Zealanders the true identities of the officers. Several other agents did, however, manage to get out of New Zealand undetected, she reveals. Mme Prieur spent a year in prison and two on a remote Pacific atoll before being allowed home. Now at the Defence Ministry, she says she remains loyal to "La Maison", as the DGSE is known, but she pours out her bitterness towards the politicians of the Mitterrand Government who lied and let down her team.

Bosnia tops menu for Chirac dinner with EU leaders

FROM CHARLES BREMNER IN PARIS

THE agony of Bosnia-Herzegovina was expected last night to weigh heavily at the Elysée Palace, where President Chirac was dining with the 14 other leaders of the European Union to pave the way for their summit in Cannes at the end of this month.

M Chirac, who took office three weeks ago, called the meeting to energise the last weeks of France's six-month presidency of the Union, virtually paralysed since February by the electoral campaign. "We want to wind up the presidency by leading Europe forwards," said a presidential aide who was helping to prepare the Gaullist leader for his first taste of Euro-summitry.

In his last term in high office, as Prime Minister in the mid-1980s, M Chirac was forced to take a back seat to President Mitterrand, then Socialist head of state, in international affairs. France hands over the presidency to Spain on July 1. Since assuming the presidency, M Chirac has thrown himself into diplomacy, making his presence felt through countless telephone calls to fellow leaders.

Though John Major, Helmut Kohl, the German Chancellor, and the other government chiefs were to test the common ground on EU financial affairs and the review of the Maastricht treaty, the main topic last night was likely to be the drive for credibility in the peace effort in former Yugoslavia.

They were expected to agree on the appointment of Carl Bildt, the former Swedish Prime Minister, to replace Lord Owen as their new mediator. Mr Bildt, who will work with Thorvald Stoltenberg, the United Nations mediator and a former Norwegian Foreign Minister, should also negotiate on behalf of the five-nation Contact Group, tying Russia and the United States to the EU, French officials said.

The leaders are also expected to give their blessing to the creation of the Rapid Reaction Force, set up under the Franco-British military partnership to give some muscle to the beleaguered UN peacekeeping force. French and British officials see the new "brotherhood in arms" as one of the few positive products of the Balkan conflict.

The Franco-British partnership on Bosnia is helping to soften the perennial differences between the two nations on Europe. Mr Major, who is due to hold a separate session with M Chirac this morning, is keen to gauge the new President's thinking on the future shape of the Union. British optimism over M Chirac's like-mindedness on matters of national sovereignty has been somewhat dulled by the fervour with which the French leader has espoused the drive for monetary union and deeper European integration since taking office.

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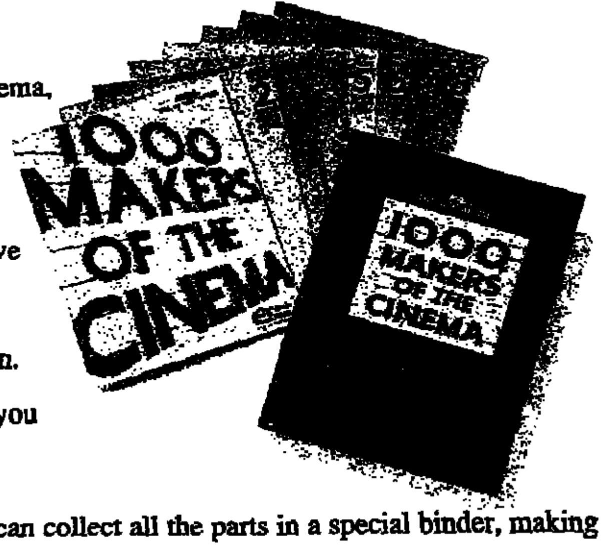

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Plus, 'Ted and me'. In the third exclusive extract from her latest memoirs, Margaret Thatcher describes how she took over the leadership of the Conservative Party from Edward Heath.

Carter ready and waiting for call to deliver Bosnia from throes of war

Carter: driven by faith and a sense of fun

From Ian Brodie
in Atlanta

AMERICA

EVERYBODY still calls him Mr President. Today, though, Jimmy Carter presides over an empire of good works. It accords him status as a senior citizen of the world who still commands attention, as he showed this week with his latest intervention in the Bosnia crisis.

At a moment when he says US policy is confused and wavering, he has agreed to appear for the first time since leaving office before a Senate hearing. He called on America and other Contact Group nations to bring the warring factions together for negotiations. He said he would not intrude as a peacebroker, but would return to Bosnia if everyone agreed he should.

It is more than 14 years since Mr Carter was bundled into involuntary retirement by Ronald Reagan. The pain of defeat has long departed and he has become the first American in history to use the White House as a stepping-stone to a higher moral plane. His wife Rosalynn remembers the moment vividly. "One night Jimmy sat straight up in bed. I'd never seen him do that. He normally sleeps so well that I thought he must be ill. Then he said, 'I've got it. What we need is somewhere to resolve conflicts'." With such a place, he said, there would have been no need for him to take Menachem Begin and Anwar Sadat to Camp David for days of talks that produced the first peace accord between Egypt and Israel.

Thus it was that the Carter Centre, his presidential library, assumed the mission of going in search of peace. The low building sits on the hill from where General Sherman watched a terrible civil war episode, the burning of Atlanta.

Mr Carter has refereed arguments large and small and has taught others the science and art of reaching agreement. He has monitored elections in the name of fair play and not hesitated to expose corruption, as in Panama when General Manuel Noriega hijacked the ballots. In the last year, the pace has accelerated. He persuaded the dying dictator, Kim Il Sung, to yield his stubborn pride and to bring North Korea into nuclear talks with America. In Haiti, he led the team which convinced Lieutenant-General Raoul Cédras that dictatorship was a losing game. In Bosnia last December, he listened to Serbs and Muslims and emerged with a four-month ceasefire. In March, almost unnoticed, he achieved a two-month ceasefire in the 40-year civil war in Sudan.

How does he do it? Listening is important, he says, allowing those who feel beleaguered to blow off steam and explain why they are misunderstood, no matter how detestable they are. Then comes the flash of steel behind Mr Carter's grin. Twice in the past year he has threatened to walk out when aggrieved parties have refused to budge. Once was with Radovan Karadzic, the Bosnian Serb leader, and the second time with Sudan's rulers. In both cases, they realised that crossing Mr Carter would only worsen their reputations.

At the White House and the State Department, some regard Mr Carter as a mercurial ally, meddlesome even. His triumphs leave the Administration looking leaden-footed.

Mr Carter's life now can be seen as an odyssey to redeem the failures of his presidency. Certainly he has learnt how to trade on his former office, but he says his Christian faith and a sense of fun drive him.

Fighting disease and malnutrition in the Third World is the centre's day-to-day role. So is helping poor black neighbourhoods on their doorstep in Atlanta where both Mr and Mrs Carter walk the streets. In two weeks' time, the Carters will be in the Watts district of Los Angeles, sleeves rolled up, helping to build a house for a poor family.

For relaxation, they retreat to the tiny township of Plains, Georgia, and the home where they lived when he was an unknown peanut farmer. He still teaches at the Sunday school and takes his turn cleaning the churchyard.

Rescued pilot thanks God and the Marines

From Martin Fletcher in Washington

REUNION

SCOTT O'GRADY, the American pilot plucked from Bosnian Serb territory after six days on the run, enjoyed a jubilant reunion with his squadron in Italy yesterday, but his rescue proved only a momentary tonic for President Clinton whose Bosnia policy came under withering fire in Washington.

American television first broadcast live pictures from the Aviano air base in Italy of a tearful Captain O'Grady thanking God and the Marines for his escape, then switched to Haris Silajdzic, Bosnia's Prime Minister, standing in the White House drive after an hour-long meeting with Vice-President Gore and denouncing the Administration's refusal to lift the UN arms embargo against his Government.

Mr Silajdzic called the embargo an "instrument of genocide" that denied his people the right to defend themselves, and his evident passion seemed certain to reinforce a rapidly growing consensus in Congress that it is time for a radical change in policy.

On Thursday night the House voted 318 to 99 to end the embargo, unilaterally if necessary, in what amounted to a stunning vote of no confidence in the Administration's handling of the Bosnian crisis. The vote also marked the first time the House has amassed the two-thirds majority required to override a certain presidential veto. Robert Dole is threatening to introduce a similiar measure in the Senate where, with few exceptions, Republicans and Democrats are united in their belief that the UN peace mission in Bosnia has irrevocably failed and should be withdrawn.

The return of Bosnia to the front pages is also taking its toll on Mr Clinton's popularity, with a *Wall Street Journal*-NBC poll yesterday showing his approval rating dropping back to 46 per cent after a brief boost from his handling of the Oklahoma City bombing.

Captain O'Grady was flown to Aviano in a US Government jet after 24 hours of rest and debriefing on the *USS Kearsarge*, the amphibious assault ship from which Thursday's dramatic rescue mission was launched. He was greeted by a crowd of more than 1,000 whooping, cheering airmen and their families, a celebratory flyover with loop-the-loops by four planes from his 555 Fighter Squadron, champagne, a huge cake and the sound of Neil Diamond's *Come To America* blasting from loudspeakers.

Clean-shaven and looking remarkably fit after six days of living on "bugs, grass and rainwater", the 29-year-old pilot wiped away tears as he said the real heroes were the Marines who flew deep into Bosnian Serb territory to rescue him. "They say they were just doing their jobs, but they came in there, they risked their lives," he said.

Captain O'Grady, who will return to America for a few weeks with his family, said he was sustained by his religious faith and the certainty everything possible was being done to find him, but said little else about his ordeal. Military and Administration officials said he had ejected after his F16 was destroyed by a Bosnian Serb missile and lay face down in undergrowth as Serb forces combed the sparsely populated area of wooded hills, sometimes passing within a few feet of him.

For the next six days he hid by day and moved by night, sending radio signals sparingly to save the batteries, in what experts said was a perfect demonstration of how to survive in hostile territory.

He had a survival kit containing two radios, a gun, flares, mirror, first-aid kit, compass, whistle, water and camouflage equipment. He also had a special "evasion chart", a 3ft by 5ft map of northwestern Bosnia made of tough, lightweight, waterproof material usable for catching rainwater or for shelter and containing a list of local edible plants. Most importantly, he had the will to survive.

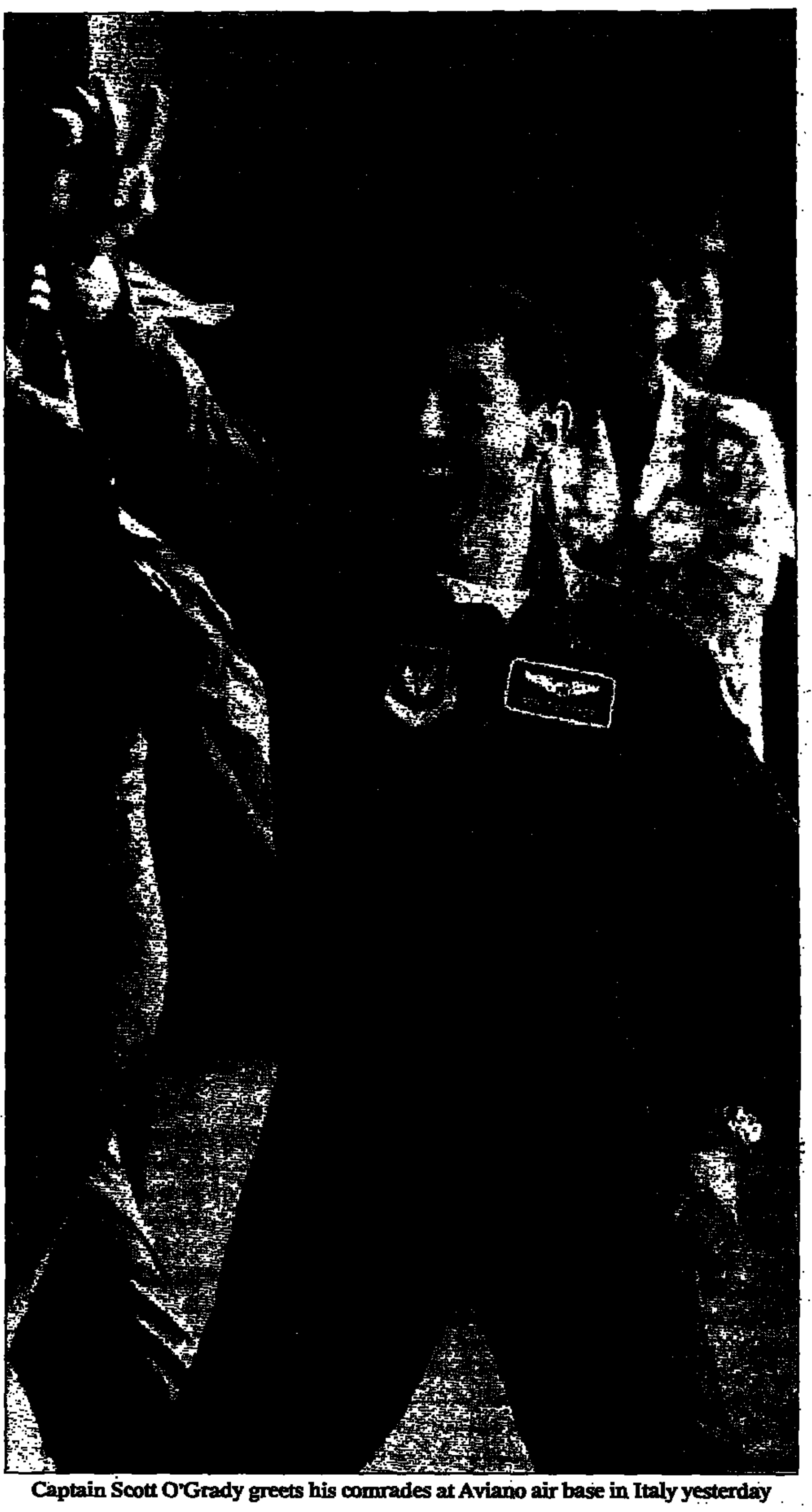
General Michael Ryan, commander of Nato air forces in southern Europe, said he believed Captain O'Grady flew into a deliberate trap last Friday because Bosnian Serbs had not previously had surface-to-air missiles in the area. The F16's destruction redoubled congressional opposition to Mr Clinton's proposal to use American ground troops to help UN peacekeepers retreat to safer positions.

Tensions begin to ease

Sarajevo: The tensions between the United Nations and the Bosnian Serbs that arose after the Nato airstrikes and retaliatory seizing of hostages two weeks ago began easing yesterday (Joel Brand writes).

The relaxation comes in the wake of short-term concessions by rebel leaders and appears to represent an important climbdown by the UN and Western nations since the recent release of more of the "Blue Helmets" who had been held hostage.

Senior UN officials travelled to the rebel stronghold at Pale on Thursday to try to alleviate mounting pressure for firm action by the peacekeepers to open a route to Sarajevo, the Bosnian capital, and other besieged "safe areas". Afterwards they said only that aid convoys would soon be allowed to enter Sarajevo again.



Captain Scott O'Grady greets his comrades at Aviano air base in Italy yesterday

Krajina Serbs hit back with airstrike

From Reuter
in Belgrade

WARPLANES of rebel Serbs in Croatia yesterday bombed Croatian army positions on Mount Dinara, from where Krajina villages had been shelled.

Advancing steadily in recent weeks, Zagreb's army has captured strategically vital high ground on Mount Dinara, threatening to sever Krajina's supply routes and shell Knin, the rebel "capital".

The latest fighting came as President Tudjman threatened to engage in a war to retake the heart of the breakaway territory unless the Serbs rejoined Croatia by the expiry of a UN peace mission at the end of October. He spoke a month after his army reconquered one of three rebel enclaves in the first big setback for Serbs who seized wide tracts of Croatia in a 1991 revolt against its secession from Yugoslavia. Croatian forces are squeezing the core of the Serb entity in mountains inland from the Adriatic Sea by advancing along its eastern flank inside Bosnia-Herzegovina.

Mr Tudjman said Croatia would keep pursuing negotiations to reintegrate the Krajina Serb domain peacefully under the umbrella of the UN mission. However, Croatia would attack if the Serbs did not renounce their rebellion and pursuit of union with separatist Serbs in Bosnia.

Croatian troops attacked after Milan Martic, the ultranationalist Krajina Serb "president", reneged on an economic accord with Croatia negotiated by Borislav Mikelic, the region's moderate "prime minister". Mr Martic has since deposed Mr Mikelic and refused any further talks with Zagreb unless it hands back Western Slavonia.

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Major presses UN over brigade

By Philip Webster
Political Editor

BRITAIN

JOHN MAJOR yesterday increased the pressure on the United Nations to approve the deployment of 5,000 more British soldiers for Bosnia when he declared that 24 Airmobile Brigade was ready to start deploying.

The Cabinet has now given its backing to sending the brigade, which will be the biggest deployment of British forces since the Gulf War. The Prime Minister confirmed that he had "pressed the button" to send the extra soldiers, raising troop levels to nearly 10,000 in Bosnia, in a speech to the Welsh Conservatives' conference in Llangollen. Britain has been irritated at the slowness of the UN in approving the new Rapid Reaction Force. The Government decided to send the reinforcements, including a first phase of 1,200 soldiers who are already in Bosnia, nearly two weeks ago. The UN Security Council has yet to approve the extra troops.

The Cabinet's decision at its meeting on Thursday was accompanied by orders to British commanders that their role in Bosnia is strictly limited to peacekeeping. Malcolm Rifkind, the Defence Secretary, said yesterday that there was no question of the UN being asked to "fight its way" through to Sarajevo. Mr Major also told the Welsh Tories: "British troops are not there to fight a war."

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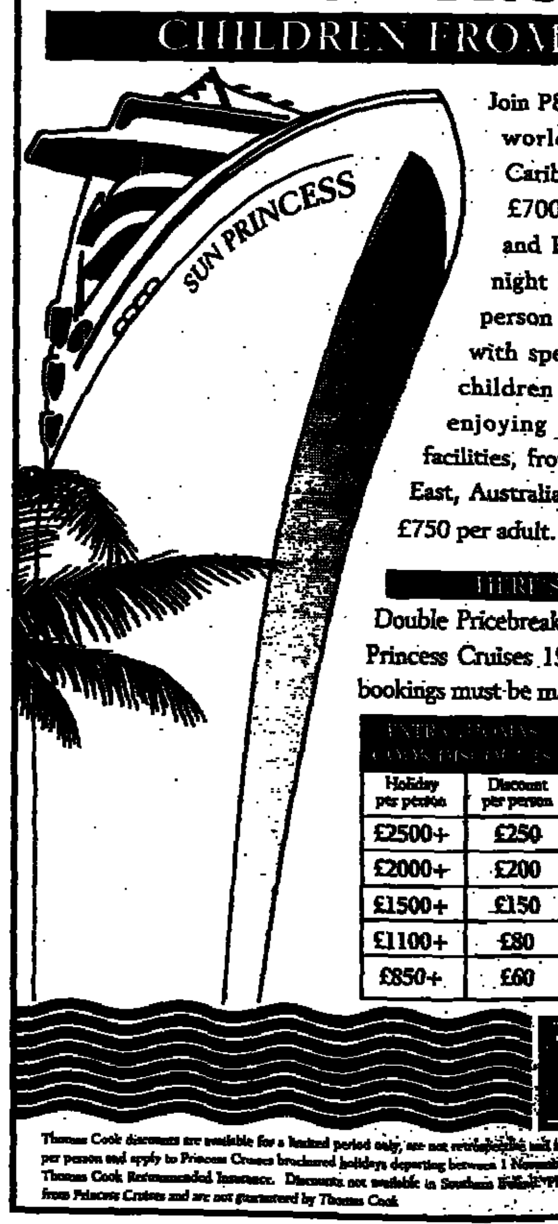

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THE TIMES SATURDAY JUNE 10 1995

Whitewater lawyer reviews death of Clinton confidant

FROM MARTIN FLETCHER IN WASHINGTON

KENNETH STARR, the Whitewater special prosecutor, has asked Henry Lee, a renowned forensic scientist from Connecticut, to review the 1993 death of Vincent Foster, the deputy White House counsel and Arkansas friend of the Clintons.

Mr Foster was the Clintons' personal lawyer before moving to Washington, and was heavily involved in the Whitewater case. His body was found in a suburban Virginia park but, despite two investigations that concluded he killed himself, questions are being asked about how and where he died.

The appointment of Mr Lee, who is also involved in the murder trial of O. J. Simpson, suggests Mr Starr may also have developed doubts after months of inquiry.

Mr Starr's investigation of events in Arkansas during the 1980s is gathering pace and again threatening to ensnare Mr Clinton. A day after the grand jury indictment of Guy Tucker, the Governor of Arkansas, another of Mr Clinton's Little Rock associates has pleaded guilty to charges brought by Mr Starr and agreed to co-operate with his investigation.

Stephen Smith, a senior aide of Mr Clinton during his early years as Governor, admitted dipping into the same pot of government-backed loans for the poor that Mr Tucker is accused of defrauding.

That pot was a Small Business Administration programme administered by a former judge named David Hale and his company, Capital Management Services. Investigators believe it was used as a "piggy bank" by the Arkansas political elite — "that's just the way business is done in Arkansas", Mr Hale told one interviewer. Mr Hale, who is co-operating with Mr Starr in return for reduced charges, claims Mr Clinton also pressed him to make a large illegal loan from the programme.

Tucker: is accused of lying to obtain loan

Mr Tucker, only the tenth sitting Governor this century to be indicted, is accused with a business partner of lying to obtain a $300,000 (£189,000) loan for their personal use. Mr Smith, now a communications professor at Arkansas University, admitted illegally obtaining a $65,000 loan to pay off a debt incurred by his Kings River property company.

Mr Hale has accused Mr Clinton of putting pressure on him to make a $300,000 loan to Susan McDougal, wife of James McDougal, the Clintons' partner in the Whitewater Development Corporation. Mr Clinton has called Mr Hale's allegation "bull" but the loan was made, never repaid, and $100,000 of it went to Whitewater. The charges against Mr Tucker and Mr Smith are based largely on information provided by Mr Hale, who is under government protection.

Mr Smith's partners in the Kings River company were Mr Tucker and Mr McDougal. Mr Smith was also president of the small Bank of Kingston owned by Mr McDougal that made a questionable $30,000 loan to Hillary Clinton to build a model home on Whitewater's land.

Mr McDougal also owned the now-bankrupt Madison Guaranty Bank. The central allegation of the Whitewater affair is that Madison funds were illegally funnelled to Mr Clinton's campaigns in return for regulatory favours that stalled its foreclosure.

Raymond Del Puerto salvages pots and pans from his home in Pampa, west Texas, after tornados hit a 45-block area of the town of about 20,000 yesterday, wrecking dozens of houses, demolishing a warehouse, overturning an 18-wheel lorry and injuring at least five people, including a woman in intensive care whose oxygen machine failed when power was lost. Electricity and telephone services were disrupted. *(AP)*

NEWS IN BRIEF

Black Sea Fleet deal

Moscow: Presidents Yeltsin and Kuchma signed an agreement yesterday on the division of the Black Sea Fleet which had soured ties between Russia and Ukraine for nearly four years (Richard Beeston writes). Moscow will receive 81 per cent of the 300-ship force.

Poll for Nepal

Kathmandu: Man Mohan Adhikary, the leader of Nepal's six-month-old minority communist Government, has asked King Birendra to dissolve parliament for another election. *(Reuter)*

Navy returns

Wellington: The first British warship to visit New Zealand for 12 years, *HMS Monmouth*, came into harbour after the Royal Navy removed nuclear weapons banned by the Government.

Whipping ban

Johannesburg: The South African Constitutional Court has outlawed the whipping of juvenile offenders. In 1991, 38,324 youths aged 17 to 21 were sentenced in court to have corporal punishment.

Fugitive financier arrested in Cuba

BY BEN MACINTYRE

THE fugitive financier Robert Vesco has been arrested in Cuba after more than two decades on the run and may soon be returned to America to face an array of charges, including swindling $224 million (£141 million) from investors and making illegal contributions to former President Nixon's campaign fund.

Mr Vesco had been living in Cuba since the early 1980s, and his arrest by the communist regime not only marks the end of a criminal saga but may signal a new warmth in relations between Havana and Washington.

US officials said his arrest appears to have come about because his relationship with President Castro had recently "turned difficult".

Mr Vesco's arrest may be a bid by Dr Castro to improve relations with Washington and encourage the Clinton Administration to ease the economic embargo on Cuba, officials in Washington said. Mr Vesco, 59, fled from the US in 1973.

Allegations take shine off Mrs Congeniality

FROM BEN MACINTYRE IN NEW YORK

BARBARA RICCI was so friendly and jolly that her fellow contestants in the Mrs New York State 1995 beauty pageant last week had no hesitation in crowning her Mrs Congeniality.

The question of her congeniality, however, has been thrown into serious doubt by accusations that she once punched a policeman in the neck and is awaiting a second trial on charges of attempting to run over a neighbour's 11-year-old daughter. The revelations have outraged the pageant's organisers, who take "family values" very seriously. The incident is made still more embarrassing since Mrs Ricci, 37, was also awarded the Mrs Civic Minded title.

"In the time she spent with us she was very co-operative and congenial and just an angel to be with," Sheila Strassburg, executive director of the pageant, told *The New York Times*. "We've never had anybody win congeniality so thoroughly."

The beleaguered Mrs Congeniality/Civic Minded insists that she has been slandered by an envious neighbour over the alleged attempt to run down her little girl. As for the incident with the policeman, which happened in 1993, "he tried to trip me", she maintains. "He did it two times. I slapped him in the face. Any woman would have done the same in that situation."

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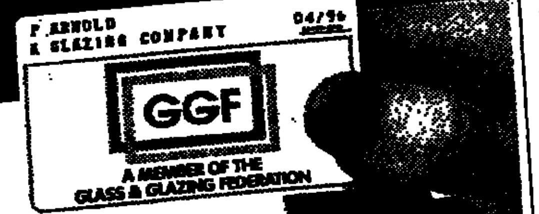

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مكتامن الأجل

Socialism collapsed under its own weight, but **Robert Skidelsky** warns of turbulence ahead for the free world

How can the West survive the next crisis of capitalism?

In the early 1960s most politically aware people of my generation believed in things which Friedrich Hayek said would put us firmly on the "road to serfdom". We were obsessed with the twin problems of Britain's "slow rate of economic growth" and "social inequality" and he believed these could be overcome only by means of vigorous governmental action. Growth as well as incomes needed to be "planned"; higher growth, as well as higher taxes, would pay for a massive expansion in the "social wage"; public investment in hospitals, schools, universities, motorways would "gear up" the economy; firms and industries "failing the nation" would be nationalised.

1960s-style socialism — for this is what it was — was largely bipartisan. Macmillan's Conservative Government had set up a skeletal planning system in the early 1960s, and Reginald Maudling's "dash for growth" had followed. We were democrats, and so we spoke of "democratic planning". Our model was France's "National Plan", but the deeper inspiration was Soviet planning. In 1961 Khrushchev had told the West "We will bury you". Both President Kennedy and Macmillan believed him; so did Harold Wilson, himself an admirer of the Soviet planning system. So "democratic planning" would be the West's answer to "Soviet planning".

Thus was set in train the disastrous sequence of events which by the late 1970s had brought most Western societies to their moment of choice: either to make Government control over economic life effective or to shrink the State and restore the market system. Rising "stagflation", slowing growth, the "fiscal crisis of the State", mounting disorder in industrial relations were combining to make the political economy of the day unworkable. It was as though Western economies were being invaded by a host of opportunistic infections all stemming from a single virus — collectivism.

Few of us realised that Hayek had predicted this outcome in his *Road to Serfdom* (1944). Hayek denied that democratic planning could be a stable halfway house between totalitarian planning and the market system. First, there would never be enough voluntary consent for the "targets" of the central plan. So the planners would constantly need to restrict the area of freedom. A good example of this in the 1970s was the move from "voluntary" to "statutory" incomes policy. Secondly, partial planning, by impeding the working of the market system, creates problems which, to the planner, appear soluble only by more complete and detailed planning. Hayek also implicitly predicted the eventual demise of Soviet central planning. Because central planning was bound to be irrational, the State's investments (the main source of its revenue) would turn out to be unprofitable. In the West, and also in Latin America, the accumulation of losses in state-owned industries was the catalyst for the "privatisations" of the 1980s. In the Communist world, where the state owned the whole economy, the unprofitability of State investments brought down the Communist system itself.

The capitalist system literally invented its way out of the collectivist trap. In politics it produced two superb entrepreneurs, Ronald Reagan and Margaret Thatcher, who restated the ideology of freedom, and enlarged the area of the politically possible. The East Asian "tigers", which continued to grow at phenomenal rates while Europe and the United States stagnated, demonstrated what could be achieved by lightly regulated capitalist economies. Finally, economic life was spontaneously deregulating itself, through what Schumpeter called "creative destruction". Its agent was the microchip, first commercialised in Silicon Valley, California. The microcomputer was the antidote to the collectivist virus. It triggered the breakup of the huge top-heavy corporate structures developed in the era of "Fordist" mass production, the deregulation of financial markets, and the creation of today's "global economy". Collectivism became unworkable because what was to be controlled had become invisible, disaggregated, or beyond the reach of national governments.

Communism lacked a similar capacity to reinvent itself. The "command economy", as its name implies, depended on coercion. Once coercion as removed from the pictures — this was Gorbachev's essential contribution — the system simply fell to pieces. The satellite leaders of Eastern Europe made deals with the dissidents to save their necks and the Soviet Union itself broke up. The restoration of capitalism became the only way to save central authority itself.

The term "transition economy" is used to describe this movement from Communism to post-Communism. But our own economic life is also in transition, from collectivism to liberalism. What would a successful outcome look like? And what do we need to do to secure one? Three issues may be identified. First, we need to secure the conditions for sustainable free trade. This means reducing unemployment and dampening down the business cycle. Heavy unemployment — such as we have today in Western Europe — is the seedbed of Protectionism. We have learnt that once heavy unemployment develops, a proportion of those out of work become unemployable — they do not return to work when the economy recovers. The ratio of long-term to total unemployment in Western Europe has risen steadily through boom and slump and is now about 40 per cent of the total.

There are many useful things we can do to lower the "natural rate" of unemployment, ranging from labour and product market deregulation to active supply side policy like training. Equally important though is stabilisation policy — to prevent or offset large shocks to demand or supply. The pervasive sense of insecurity created by the swings between inflation and recession and the accelerated downsizing, outsizing and flattening of firms is as much a danger to free trade as actual unemployment. Keynesian stabilisation policy still has a part to play in preserving economic freedom, even though the pseudo-Keynesian finance practised extensively in the free world in the 1970s was part of the disease.

Secondly, we must prevent collectivism from creeping up on us unawares, as it did before. The British Government still spends more than 40 per cent of the national income; in continental Europe it is 10 per cent higher. These ratios are not just too large to be "honestly" financed, but they entrench a dependency and entitlements culture which rots the sense of individual responsibility. All political parties should commit themselves to a medium-term fiscal strategy for reducing the share of public spending in GDP to nearer 30 per cent. This would require a rise in the proportion of health-care and education financed from private sources, mostly from tax cuts. It would also require the support of a new kind of public philosophy which challenges the State's right to regulate the lives of free and responsible people.

Finally, we must escape from the Cold War attitude of regarding Eastern Europe and Russia as "outside" Europe. This does not mean simply extending the European Union and Nato eastwards; but seriously asking whether these Cold War structures, which provided valuable public goods for part of Europe in the past may not, in their present form, be serious impediments to the reintegration of the lost lands in a new European-wide economic and security system.

The transition to post-collectivism will undoubtedly be turbulent, domestically as well as internationally. Many of the essential steps have yet to be taken, particularly in Western Europe. We need to develop clear, long-term aims, and navigate well in the storm.

Lord Skidelsky is professor of political economy at Warwick University and chairman of the Social Market Foundation. His book The World After Communism: A Polemic for our Times *is published by Macmillan on June 23.*

● A debate on Robert Skidelsky's new book will be held on June 27; coupon details, page 5

Curtains for the Barbican

The RSC's retreat from London is a disaster, says **Benedict Nightingale**

Back in 1958, when the embryonic Royal Shakespeare Company was visiting Leningrad, its young director-designate went to his chairman's room and talked to him through the night. If the RSC was to compete with the National Theatre for the best actors, didn't it need a strong London branch as well as its Stratford headquarters? So argued Peter Hall to Fordham Flower, and Flower ended up agreeing to spend all the company's reserves on the expansion that occurred in 1960.

It was a bold decision, strongly opposed by vested interests in and outside the company. Yet it transformed not only the RSC but London theatre itself. Before long the capital's visitors and residents could be sure of seeing finely performed Shakespeare, as well as other classic and modern plays, all year round. When the Barbican was finished in 1982, it was only logical the RSC would move there. Indeed, its two component theatres were actually designed for the company and to its specifications.

But what Hall and Flower lovingly created may now be conscientiously demolished by their successors. The RSC will keep one foot in Stratford, but from 1997 onwards London will get barely half a sole. The company will spend only the winter months at the Barbican, and put its energies and manpower into touring the country and adding two more "residencies" in undecided cities to the month-long one it already undertakes in Newcastle.

Adrian Noble, whose plan this is, would doubtless take issue with anyone who suggested that the RSC risks losing soul as well as sole. The artistic director is, he believes, spreading the word to underprivileged gentiles beyond our spoiled Jerusalem. But the danger may be deeper than he wishes to think. A company's soul is its actors — and will the best really be willing to revert to a gipsy life. What chance of another Lear from Paul Scofield if the price is months on rail and road?

Though Noble claims that more touring will make the RSC "the true national theatre in terms of access", the winner will be the National Theatre proper, which will find more good actors more often around. Meanwhile, the RSC will be well-meaningly rendering itself marginal. This will strike some who live in the regions as a maddeningly metropolitan view. A few may even be willing to trade excellence for availability, among them an Arts Council committed to touring as a cheap way of keeping buildings humming. But this is Britain, not America. All roads lead to London, and none take long getting there. Suppose you live in Birmingham or Leicester. Is it easier to catch the RSC in London or Newcastle? London — or Plymouth, Glasgow?

A plan meant to increase access to the company's work may end by reducing it: and that's only for the British. Most foreign visitors may as well say goodbye to the RSC, for most come here between April and October, when the RSC will be out of town. The capital will be losing a major cultural asset. The company claims the Department of Heritage is content. If so, it is a disgrace.

Another disgrace is the supine reaction of the City of London. It has rescued the RSC from financial disaster. It recently doubled its grant to the company to £3.6 million. It has improved backstage facilities and, you might think, done everything reasonable to help a troupe that has continually professed itself happy at the Barbican. It has been rewarded with ingratitude verging on betrayal — and what is the response of Bernard Harty, the hapless chap the City recently appointed managing director of the Barbican Centre? To promise to "explore to the full the exciting opportunities now offered to us" by the RSC's absence.

That is almost sadder than thanking the Luftwaffe for giving the City exciting opportunities to use the holes it left. The drama, dance, and music Harty hopes will fill "our two acclaimed stages" for six months a year will prove more elusive than new offices.

In 1990 financial pressures forced the RSC to close for four months, and we were all expected to be sorry. Now idealism is doing much more of the same, and we are asked to be glad. The whole business smacks of shallow thinking and botch-up. Is it too late for a rethink? Let's hope not.

Our floating pleasure palaces

What is the appeal of piers? And why do so many towns neglect these seaside jewels?

BRIAN HARRIS

City fathers rebuild Southend's architectural amphibian each time disaster strikes. This week the pier burnt for the third time since the war

Simon Jenkins

Last week Southend pier burnt for the third time since the war. The thing is cursed. I went there in 1976 after fire number two and gazed at the contorted girders of the old pavilion a mile out to sea. Shortly afterwards another fire gutted the landward end and a ship sailed clean through its centre section. Yet with each disaster the city fathers of Southend doggedly set to and rebuild whatever is destroyed. They have the dedication of oriental priests restoring wooden temples. Their pier is, after all, the one jewel of Southend.

A pier in flames is peculiarly sad. Piers are architectural amphibians. They are designed to appear to float, yet they do not sink. They are neither harbours nor marinas, neither docks nor pleasure boats. Other countries do not have piers, only Britain, as if we were straining to escape the prison of the shore and strike across the sea in search of new lands to conquer. There are still 46 definable pleasure piers left, plus some stumps. All are vulnerable to rot, fire and storm. The finest, Brighton West Pier, still stands derelict. Clevedon in Somerset was saved only by the National Heritage Memorial Fund. Not a year passes without a pier falling victim to fire or collapse through storm.

Yet their appeal persists. The pier sits offshore at every British seaside resort, a fretwork palace of pleasure defying both the British climate and landlocked delights. Southend pier is chiefly remarkable for being the longest pier "in the universe". You can walk its mile length, but this is so boring that the miniature train is the customary means of reaching the end. The Thames estuary is not blessed with natural features, nor is the Essex coast especially diverting. My 1976 visit was with John Betjeman. Although crippled, he refused any wheelchair and braved the wind and rain the whole way to the end to inspect the damage. He then went on a tour of inspection of Southend's chapels and boarding-houses. He would accost passers-by with the question, "Don't you feel privileged to be living amid the architectural marvels of Southend?" They looked at him in blank amazement. It was, I think, his last architectural expedition, and perhaps a little mischievous. But the dejected elders of Southend, mortified at their one treasure being yet again a blackened ruin, were greatly boosted by his visit.

Betjeman understood the magic of piers. "Havens of fresh air and freedom from anxiety," he called them. We step on to a pier, he said, as into a fantasy. A pier is a ship without seasickness, a mild adventure. When I lived briefly in Brighton, its West Pier was still open, restored as the set for the film, *Oh! What a Lovely War*. It was a wonderland of pavilions and bridges, decks and secret corners. The West Pier was a place for quiet thoughts, secret trysts, sadness and escape, an architecture of intimacy as well as of enjoyment. The pier today, broken by storm and decay, padlocked and chained, is a scar on the face of Brighton and a damnation on the town's notorious meanness.

The British pier owed its genesis to the need to bring customers to the seaside spas of the Regency without dumping them on a scruffy and dangerous beach. The earliest was at Ryde on the Isle of Wight. Brighton followed in 1822, then Herne Bay, Southend and Margate. Only gradually did piers develop as places of promenade and pleasure alone. Here Great Yarmouth and Southport compete for the title of "first", both in 1860. Ryde's local handbook replied with its own boast: "a more delightful scene can scarcely be conceived than this pier affords when the placid brightness of a summer's moon rests upon it, a combination of motion and stillness."

There followed a commercial boom in pier building. Fourteen were designed by the doyen of pier masters, Eugenius Birch, including Brighton West, Eastbourne, Hastings, Scarborough, Blackpool and Aberystwyth. He did not build Clevedon in the Bristol Channel, Betjeman's favourite, "as delicate as a Japanese print in the mist and like an insect in the sunlight". Cyril Bainbridge, historian of the British pier, has counted 89 built between 1814 and 1910. Of the roughly 50 still standing, many are dreadfully wounded.

All were business enterprises. Southport charged 6d to walk on the pier and a shilling for a sedan or wheelchair, a high price for a Victorian visitor. Most piers declared handsome dividends, so much so that Brighton built two piers and Blackpool three. For some reason they never caught on abroad. I believe the only continental piers were at Blankenberge in Belgium and Trouville in France, both intended to attract Britons. There are piers too at Atlantic City.

Perhaps because of their antiquity and location, piers have come to seem the acceptable face of seaside tat. Bainbridge refers to them as "turbulent and colourful, gaiety contrasting with grim, sad battles against economic, social and meteorological elements". They were home to the petty gambling of the slot machine, What the Butler Saw, the clairvoyants, roller-coasters, rude postcards, candyfloss and suicides. They reflected the British love of the picturesque, of coastal vistas and sea views.

To the middle classes, they were safe working-class entertainment. Any sign of trouble and the police could seal the entrance. The piers at Blackpool and Brighton have been many a British politician's one confrontation with the alien culture of the populace. I recall a noted Chief Whip reeling back from an encounter with Les Dawson on Blackpool pier during a dull session at a party conference. To Dawson, the piers were "music hall with salt". It was Dawson in Blackpool, I believe, who produced the shortest comic short story: "Wife's run off with the neighbour. (Pause) I miss 'im." He would certainly have used the pierhead perennial: "That's not a tan you've got, that's rust."

Millions of pounds have gone into saving such seaside monuments as the piers at Clevedon, Bangor and Southend. Yet most have suffered in the canon of architecture by their association with downmarket leisure, and with seaside resorts that are largely unknown territory to the denizens of Westminster and Whitehall. What is shocking is that Brighton's West Pier, the only pier to be listed as a Grade One historic building, should still be derelict. Like its other Grade One sister in sorrow, St Pancras Station, it is a blot on the escutcheon of Britain's respect for its past.

Time was when the burghers of that town would have shamed themselves into action.

Rambling on

RAMBLERS LOCKED in a long-running feud with the Queen have been cheered by victory in a similar tussle with her eldest son. The Prince of Wales's decision to allow walkers to tramp over a section of his Thames-side land in London is encouraging them to step up their campaign for access to a riverside path at Windsor.

The Ramblers' Association castigated Her Majesty for refusing to open up the Thames path at Windsor Great Park which was closed by Queen Victoria.

Now Prince Charles, who as Duke of Cornwall owns a stretch of path in sight of the Houses of Parliament close to Vauxhall Bridge, has torn down a 12ft wall and a fence to allow public access. MI6 has also relented to allow access to the adjoining Thames-side path in front of its new HQ.

"With Prince Charles and MI6 throwing their stretches of riverside path open to the public, we are now calling on the Queen to relent her decision to continue the century-old ban on the riverside path at Windsor," says the association's feisty chairman, Kate Ashbrook. Tomorrow, a group of ramblers bearing binoculars can be spotted outside the superspies' HQ.

● *Crafty tactics by Gavin Hastings and his Scottish squad in Pretoria. Late at night, they sneaked into the Harlequins' ground to practise on the special scrum machine imported by New Zealand. Watch out for forceful scrummaging when the two teams meet tomorrow.*

Spare cash

ON A RARE excursion to the opera, Tony Blair chose a significantly political piece warning of the perils of inflation. To make the point, fake dollar bills rained down on the audience, including the Blairs, Labour's heritage spokesman Chris Smith, and former Arts Minister Lord Gowrie, at the first night on Thursday of the English National Opera's *The Rise and Fall of the City of Mahagonny*.

Although the Labour leader and his wife Cherie were in a box, a few greenbacks fluttered their way.

Locked out

UGLY SCENES were witnessed late on Thursday night outside the Dorchester Club in London's Park Lane when hundreds of black-tied and be-sequinned partygoers found themselves barred.

Sir Robin Day hammered furiously on the door of Dai Llewelyn's nightclub before heading for the nearby Hilton in disgust. Ivana Trump, her fiancé Riccardo Mazzucchelli, and a Baring or two were also locked out. All had paid up to £125 a head to dance at the Dorchester in the final flourish of the "Night of 100 Dinners", a celebrity-strewn evening in aid of the Italian gallery Accademia Italiana. "The whole thing is a nightmare," wailed Llewellyn who bore the brunt of the crowd's fury.

Safety seat

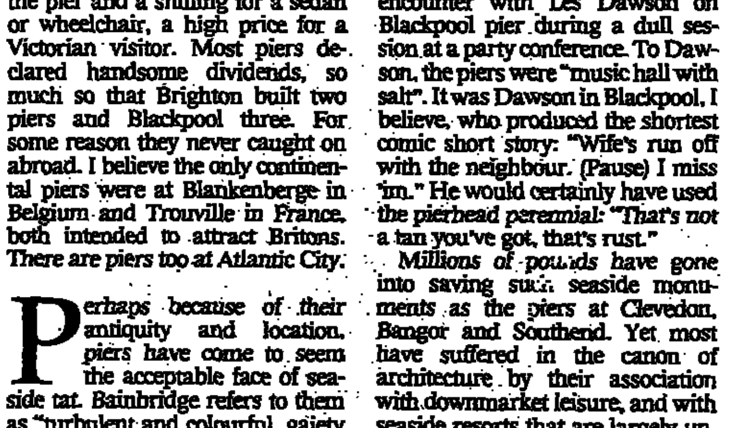
A BATTLE between young Turks is further lowering the tone of the Tory benches. Edward Garnier, QC, MP for Harborough, has formally applied for the seat of Rutland and Melton occupied by the up-and-coming Alan Duncan.

Garnier tipped as a future Attorney-General, is twitchy about his own seat, which becomes more marginal with boundary changes. After scanning the Bosworth seat of disgraced MP, David Tredinnick, Garnier challenged Duncan for very safe Rutland. Party chiefs, Jeremy Hanley and Dame Angela Rumbold apparently spoke to Garnier about his hostile action which has offended older members. Senior MP Bob Dunn commented: "Boundary changes create a jittery atmosphere. But for fellow colleagues to behave in this way is very unusual to say the least."

Hair-raising

JOHN Humphrys, stalwart and controversial co-presenter of the BBC's *Today* programme, is currently alarming guests with his new hairdo. On the air yesterday a less-than-kind sports commentator compared it to the coiffure of footballer Paul "Gazza" Gascoigne.

Humphrys dismisses the comparison. "Gazza has dyed his hair blond. My hair colour is entirely natural and due to age," he says. James Naughtie comments: "John is lucky because he has lots of hair . . . I have to keep mine very short to make it look fuller."



Marmaduke Hussey and Lady Susan: lively weekends

Neighbourly

WEEKENDS on the Waldegraves' Somerset estate should be even livelier from now on. When William Waldegrave repairs bruised and shaken to the family seat, his neighbours will include his elder brother, James, who recently inherited the earldom, and his sister, Lady Susan, one of the Queen's Ladies-in Waiting.

And, of course, accompanying Lady Susan to their family cottage on the estate will be her husband, Marmaduke Hussey, Chairman of governors at the BBC, which leaked the draft report containing Sir Richard Scott's damning criticism of the Minister.

P·H·S

مكتبة الأهرام

NORTH AND DIRTY

Why Germany, not Britain, is the chief sea villain

The row between John Gummer and other environment ministers at the Fourth International Conference on the North Sea has been used by environmental campaigners as evidence that Britain is still the dirty man of Europe, the main polluter of the North Sea and the obstacle to tougher measures to restrict the release of chemicals, fertilisers, oil waste and rubbish which is causing such devastation to marine life. This impression, casting Britain so conveniently again as the villain, is crass and misleading.

The charges let off the hook those continental nations, particularly Germany, that trumpet their environmental ideals while their rivers discharge thousands of tons of pollution into the sea. The Elbe, carrying all the effluents of Bohemia and former East Germany, is still disproportionately polluting, despite Bonn's 1990 commitment, along with the other eight conference participants, to the halving of discharges by this year.

Mr Gummer can look after himself. He bears no scars from last year's name-calling by a Norwegian minister, and yesterday hit back at Denmark's destruction of sand eel stocks which it grinds up for animal feed. He was on less sure ground in defending the dumping of the Brent Spar oil platform: concern about the accumulation of toxic waste in the bases of rigs is widespread, though Greenpeace has exploited the platforms' capitalist image to exaggerate the dangers. Dumping must be considered case by case. But of the 400 North Sea oil rigs, only a few could, by general consent, be dumped.

Mr Gummer was most vulnerable however in refusing to agree a blanket ban on the discharge of nitrates from agricultural run-offs and sewage. Certainly, as he argued, the use and run-off of fertilisers has to be properly monitored; and unrealistic targets will simply be ignored. But everywhere the sea is showing its distress: the blooming algae and poisoned fish are all too common. Even more alarming, the discharge of hazardous chemicals has stunted and deformed marine life. The link between organochlorines and the reported fall in human male sperm count may not be definitive; but it is undoubtedly disturbing.

By contrast, Britain has taken the lead in tackling the other big threat to life in the North Sea: overfishing. British fishermen, who have already had to cut back their days at sea, complain that soon there will be nothing left to fish. Already stocks of cod, plaice and sole are so low that replacement may not be possible. Britain has also supported measures that were passed at Esbjerg: the holding of an emergency conference on fish stocks next year, the protection of species and habitats and the ban on the discharge of oily waste and chemicals by ships.

The North Sea has never stirred Britons' emotions as have the Channel or even the Atlantic. It has however been the nearest and largest source of food from the sea, and for a generation its energy riches have kept the nation afloat. Its healthy survival is a matter of vital interest. Waspish ministerial comment, particularly from Svend Auken of Denmark, has enlivened events at Esbjerg this week. It has given Greenpeace a publicity victory. But it should not be allowed to obscure the small but important decisions that may help to save one of the world's most endangered seas.

CHINA'S DAY IN COURT

The safeguards for the rule of law in Hong Kong are imperfect

The accord between Britain and China on Hong Kong's Court of Final Appeal may avert one danger, that of a legal vacuum when China assumes sovereignty in July 1997. But the terms of the agreement are not without risk for the secure functioning of the rule of law in Hong Kong. Chris Patten, the Governor, has been condemned not only in Hong Kong's Legislative Council, which must approve the relevant Bill, but by some of the colony's most eminent lawyers.

Their first cause for concern is that the court, which will replace the judicial committee of the Privy Council, will not now open its doors until after Britain departs. Mr Patten had previously insisted that in order to gain experience and win public confidence, the judges needed to be selected and the court to be up and running well before 1997 — as China had agreed in 1991.

The British and Hong Kong Governments defend this key concession on the ground that legislation can now go forward with China's support rather than under the cloud of a Chinese threat to dismantle the court in 1997. But this was a surrender both to blackmail and to China's assertion of its right to renege on any agreement which no longer suits it. China could change its mind again even after the legislation has been passed — since the court will not yet be in place.

This was not Britain's only concession. The Court of Final Appeal Bill lays down in considerable detail the way the court will operate. An independent commission will, as stipulated in China's Basic Law for post-1997 Hong Kong, appoint the Chief Justice. But that still leaves vital matters unsettled. It will be left to the Chinese — the chief executive and principal officers of the future Hong Kong Special Administrative Region who China will designate next year — to decide who sits on the bench and how the court is to be administered. Britain and Hong Kong will advise — but only advise.

Mr Patten is also open to the charge that Britain has undermined the court in advance, by agreeing that under Hong Kong law, the Court of Final Appeal will be bound by China's definition of what is an "act of state", and therefore outside the jurisdiction of any court. International common law limits these acts to such clear exercises of the sovereign prerogative such as treaties, acts of war or blockade — but China spreads the net far wider. Article 19 of China's Basic Law for Hong Kong refers to "acts of state such as defence and foreign affairs" — and gives Peking the final say on what this means. Such points may seem wholly arcane; but this ambiguous wording leaves ample room for China to rule, on quite arbitrary grounds, that a policy or decision by the post-1997 Hong Kong Government is an act of state and thus immune from legal challenge.

In the words of Martin Lee, QC, this amounts to "common law with Chinese characteristics" — law subject to political whim. It could limit legal challenges to abuses of official power. Somebody dismissed for political reasons could, for example, be prevented from appealing to the court. Mr Patten's defence, that Article 19 will be the law of the land after 1997, hardly justifies a British blessing for its provisions.

The British can, however, claim to have drawn some of Article 19's teeth. China has agreed that an "act of state" will not include decisions on the constitutionality of laws, where the court will have jurisdiction. China has also dropped its demand for a "post-verdict remedial mechanism" giving the Chief Executive power to overturn court decisions. But it must have been clear even to Peking that this would openly breach the 1984 Sino-British Declaration, destroying the entire concept of "final appeal".

Mr Patten's difficult choice was between legislating without a deal and opting for a compromise which does less than justice to the legal framework which is the fount of Hong Kong's prosperity. In the name of realism, he may win over enough critics to see this legislation through. But he is unlikely to regain the authority and popular trust he has won by defending Hong Kong's rights to true autonomy. For China, this was always a test of who rules Hong Kong. With this decision, the sun set yesterday over British rule. But that is of less importance than the question mark it leaves over the integrity of "one country, two systems".

SAMMY LEARNS TO FORGET

How sad to be a politically correct sea lion!

Sammy was glum. For in addition to providing that formulaic opening sentence for a children's picturebook, he had just become a victim of strange new rules enforced by animal rights bullies.

Sammy is a sea lion. For the first five years of his salt-watery life he was trained to perform simple tricks in order to amuse visitors to the Welsh Mountain Zoo at Colwyn Bay. He caught plastic balls and balanced them on his nose. He was trained to hunt for fish suppers hidden in blocks of ice. He barked to attract attention. And in particular, he learnt to stand upright on his back flippers and clap his front flippers in apparent gratitude for being fed mackerel.

But then Sammy was transferred to Longleat safari park, where they disapprove of such circus tricks as unnatural and exploitative. (Though in its own extravagances, Longleat has done the human equivalent of barking since it was one of the first stately homes to open to the public.) So now they are trying to rehabilitate Sammy's behaviour by feeding him only when he is swimming around quietly without barking. Unfortunately, the five female sea lions who live with Sammy have just all come on heat, which makes him bark all the more. And so what Sammy is gaining in modern animal correct behaviour, he is losing in blubber. Ever since the days of Zeus's sexist metamorphoses and Balaam's ass, humans have been treating other animals as extensions of themselves. But it is surely unfair at this stage in evolution to try to teach old seadogs new tricks: it is as unkind as reprogramming Pavlov's dogs not to salivate when the bell rings. Witnesses to animals enjoyable interaction with humans range from sheepdogs herding sheep around the hill to budgerigars imitating sentimental human cry.

We cannot measure what animals feel. The circus and other such animal exploitations are out of fashion in a world of game parks and sensitive nature films. But animals, like humans, seem to enjoy having something to do. The new sniffer-dogs seem to like their work, as cats still purr and stretch in pleasure at human contact.

From the earliest fables to the latest safari parks, animals have had much to teach their human species. They are part of our mythology and our virtual reality. But humans continually sentimentalise their message. Sammy the sea lion, suddenly deprived of the only occupation he was any good at, now feels the equivalent of middle-class employment insecurity.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN Telephone 0171-782 5000

Cohabitation and changing Christian certainties on sin

From Prebendary Rodney Schofield

Sir, *Something to Celebrate*, the new Church of England report on families, tells us (report, June 7) that "cohabitation which involves a mutual, lifelong, exclusive commitment may be a legitimate form of marriage". Unfortunately no one else can know that unless the couple have declared their intention publicly. And the report itself remarks earlier that cohabitation beyond the age of 45 is rare, and indeed tends to be short-lived, lasting two years on average.

It does seem to me, therefore, that while "cohabitation needs to be attended to with sympathy and discernment" it should never be forgotten that it is in practice an *unstable* relationship, and therefore to speak of it, as the report does, as "a serious commitment" is to fly in the face of the facts.

I welcome much else in the report as enormously helpful and challenging, but it is a pity that in the more controversial areas the Church of England did not apparently take the opportunity to consult with other ecumenical partners. There are statements and conclusions here from which other Christian bodies may wish to distance themselves. And if they do, the credibility of our Christian witness will be impaired.

Yours faithfully,
RODNEY SCHOFIELD
(Director of Ordinands,
Diocese of Bath and Wells),
The Rectory, West Monkton,
Taunton, Somerset.
June 7.

From Mr Edwin J. Broomhall

Sir, Do the leaders in the Church have any biblical basis in their understanding of the Christian faith to declare in the pulpits of our churches today?

An archbishop says people do not take hell seriously any more, and that they are confused about the meaning of the soul (report, November 8, 1994). Christ speaks of soul, body and hell; He warns the rich fool that his soul will be required of him (Luke xii, 20).

This week a pulpit in Oxford is given over to one of another religion to preach to a congregation of a thousand (report, June 5). Have we no one who can preach the Christian Gospel, or is the Church to be misused as a public auditorium for a political address?

Now we are told that sin is no longer sin. Jesus said, repent or you perish.

This all seems to put aside the true purpose of the Church to declare the redemptive work of Christ. What faith and beliefs does the Church of England now hold?

Yours faithfully,
EDWIN J. BROOMHALL,
16 Queen's Drive, Bedford.
June 8.

From Mr Alan Challoner

Sir, Can we hope that the Church's report will help towards a recognition that how people live and regulate their lives is, within the law, a matter for themselves to decide?

The really important issue for our society is not the formal or legal arrangement between consenting parties, but the way in which we prepare for parenthood and how successfully we cope with that.

The future rests on our children and unless we ensure that they are given every opportunity to thrive and succeed in a life for which they have had no say, then we are failing our civilisation.

Yours faithfully,
ALAN CHALLONER,
13 The Village,
Bodelwyddan, Clwyd.
June 7.

From Sir John Herbecq

Sir, The report on family life produced by the Bishop of Bath and Wells is entitled *Something to Celebrate*. It is a matter for celebration that St Paul did not feel impelled to "wrestle with the realities of contemporary society" in Corinth.

Yours faithfully,
JOHN HERBECQ,
Maryland,
10 Ledgers Meadow, Cuckfield,
Haywards Heath, West Sussex.
June 7.

*From the Reverend Clive Calver,
Director General of the
Evangelical Alliance UK*

Sir, In announcing that living in sin is no longer sinful the Church is in danger of baptising contemporary culture by simply accepting what society regards as the norm and granting it the blessing of the Church.

The Christian faith is historical or it is nothing. Christianity's traditional message about relationships is one of a committed partnership in the bonds of marriage and under the gaze of God. Of course the Church should welcome cohabiting couples, but the offer of friendship in our churches does not mean we have to agree with their perspective.

Yours faithfully,
CLIVE CALVER, Director General,
Evangelical Alliance UK,
Whitefield House,
186 Kennington Park Road, SE11.
June 7.

From the Rector of Bath Weston

Sir, Once again a Church of England report covering an ethical matter confuses condemning sin with condemning the sinner. Of course every sinner is welcome in the Church, else there would be none — are we not all sinners?

Surely the right and traditional line to take is to welcome the sinner and yet hold out for the historic Christian idea of marriage, which necessarily means calling cohabitation a sin.

Yours faithfully,
PATRICK WHITWORTH,
The Rectory,
Church Street, Weston, Bath, Avon.
June 7.

From Mr J. Lovatt

Sir, Does not the Church's statement on sin show that it is being led rather than leading.

Yours sincerely,
JOSEPH LOVATT,
The Bath Arms, Horningsham,
Warminster, Wiltshire.
June 8.

From Mr John Harvey

Sir, In order to avoid offending other sinners, shouldn't the Ten Commandments now become the Ten Constructive Suggestions?

Yours faithfully,
JOHN HARVEY,
1 Drove Cottages,
Rodmell, Lewes, East Sussex.
June 6.

Scott inquiry questions

From Dr Roy Turner

Sir, Simon Jenkins's diatribe ("Riding Scott's tiger", June 7) against the methods of the Scott inquiry has much merit in it — looked at from the point of view of the ministers and civil servants involved. For the rest of us, given the secrecy which surrounds the normal process of British government, his arguments are less compelling.

There must be something very seriously wrong. If the methods of the Scott inquiry are a "travesty of natural justice", as the heading says, how can we describe the actions of ministers who were prepared to send the Matrix Churchill innocent men to jail?

Deception seems to be part of the politicians' stock in trade. As long as they keep it amongst themselves we tolerate it. When they aid and abet a manifest injustice we should not really be concerned about how they are exposed.

Yours faithfully,
ROY TURNER,
2 Vine Cottage,
Rodmell, Lewes, East Sussex.
June 8.

From Mr Bill Kearns

Sir, May I disagree with Mr W. J. Bishop (letter, June 8) that the leak will be seen as a lasting blot when history is written.

Rather it will be seen as the corrective counterweight which emerged to balance the damage done by an increasingly secretive, valueless and unsavoury government.

Yours ever,
BILL KEARNS,
33 Battersea Park Road, SW8.
June 8.

From Mr Andrew Cumming

Sir, Mr Waldegrave states (report, June 7): "There was no conceivable reason why I should wish to have taken the absurd risk of consciously misleading Parliament *for no personal or political gain*" (my italics).

Yours faithfully
(until I get a better offer),
ANDREW CUMMING,
31 Honeyman Close, NW6.
June 8.

Two de sweet

From Mr Tim Biddiscombe

Sir, Surely the answer to Eurostar's problem with puddings and cheese (Diary, June 7) is to serve them in the order preferred in the country of destination.

Travellers would then be prepared for the culture shock of being abroad, and the social solecism of serving the two together would be avoided.

Yours sincerely,
TIM BIDDISCOMBE,
27 Saxon Road, Hoylake,
Wirral, Merseyside.
June 7.

Weekend Money letters, page 33

Small bookshops and cheaper books

From Mr Frederick Forsyth

Sir, I note with approbation the report by the House of Commons National Heritage Select Committee supporting the retention of the Net Book Agreement (details, June 8).

Like any example of retail price maintenance, the NBA is extremely easy to attack. But one should first give great consideration to two points.

There are thousands of small bookshops which are a service and delight to their communities. Nevertheless they exist on stringent financial margins. To exist at all, they need the income from the sure-fire best-selling blockbusters.

If these are taken away by the supermarkets, the smaller bookshops cannot afford to stock, or survive upon the sales of, the thousand other minority-interest titles they presently make available. These other titles collectively give great pleasure to our book-reading public, aesthetically, culturally and educationally. Yet the supermarkets would never dream of stocking them. I believe the abolition of the NBA would drive hundreds of small bookshops into receivership.

Every year our publishers are able to take a "flyer" on new, unknown writers — hundreds of them in fact — as well as publishing academic, artistic and poetic works, along with reprints of the classics. They can do so because they have the margin afforded by the sales of the blockbusters. Without this margin it would be a rare publisher who could risk a new and small-scale writer. Yet remember this: all the blockbusting authors today were aspirant hopefuls, praying that a publisher would take a chance on them.

In short, a choice of books is more important to this country than a choice of breakfast cereals.

Yours faithfully,
FREDERICK FORSYTH,
East End Green Farm,
Hertingfordbury,
Hertfordshire.
June 8.

From Mr Harry Ganz

Sir, According to your report today, supporters of the NBA fear that its removal "could force small booksellers out of business, because they would lose income to multiples that could cut prices". But what is the difference between books and any other commodities?

Smaller, independent shops of all descriptions — pharmacies, perfumeries, grocers and bookshops — are closing down because of competition from the multiples. We are now a nation of shrinking shopkeepers.

Perhaps the only solution is to return to the old days of RPM, with controlled pricing, when all shops could compete equally.

Yours faithfully,
HARRY GANZ,
The Garden Pharmacy,
119 Long Acre, WC2.
June 8.

Offences by women

From Mr Rob Allen

Sir, The fact that more women are sent to prison for non-payment of a television licence than for robbery, burglary, drug offences or crimes against the person (report, June 6) is a modern-day scandal.

The cost, in both human and financial terms, is staggering. To send a typical TV licence defaulter — a single mother with two children — to prison for one week costs over £2,000, roughly 25 times the price of the original television licence. The effects on children when their mother is imprisoned, especially if there is no one else to look after them and they end up in care, are also extremely damaging.

It would be greatly to the credit of the BBC and the Government if they were to review this issue as a matter of urgency. Perhaps only those offenders who it is realistic to assume have the money to pay a £1,000 fine should be prosecuted in future? Or we could follow the example of Scotland, where courts are required first to recover the fine as a civil debt before any question of imprisonment can arise.

Yours faithfully,
ROB ALLEN
(Director of Policy, Research and
Development),
National Association for the Care
and Resettlement of Offenders,
169 Clapham Road, SW9.
June 6.

School transport

From Dr T. R. Evans

Sir, Essex County Council's proposals to cut school transport concessions (reports, June 5) fill me with dismay. I was born in Clacton and educated at the Royal Grammar School, Colchester, from 1956-63. Coming from a family on a very low income, I could not have attended this school unless my fares had been paid. In due course Essex Education Authority paid for me to attend medical school and qualify as a doctor. Later, I was appointed as a London teaching hospital consultant.

Obviously the Liberal Democrat/Labour-controlled council in Essex do not believe in equal opportunities for those of equal ability irrespective of background. I therefore remain humbly grateful to their Tory predecessors to whom I owe my career. I am very sad that children in Essex today will not be able to benefit as I did.

I feel sure that my political hero, Clement Attlee, would not have approved. What do Mr Ashdown and Mr Blair think about this?

Yours faithfully,
T. R. EVANS,
3 Woodward Avenue, Hendon, NW4.
June 6.

Letters should carry a daytime telephone number. They may be faxed to 0171-782 5046.

How to end Test sticky wickets

From Dr Ian J. Dilworth

Sir, The first day of the Test match at Headingley had six stoppages, totalling 110 minutes, until the rain stopped play for the day at 5.25pm (report, June 9). It occurs to me that the time may have arrived for a small radar set at Test sites to allow accurate indication of the weather about to reach the pitch. Information from national sources tends to be too general.

If the rainfall rate, rain direction and time to reach the pitch were made known in advance to the umpires they could get the covers on more rapidly, play could resume quicker and false starts, a particularly important reason for batsmen losing their concentration, could be avoided. Damp periods could be used for tea breaks.

Suitable radars are available for a fairly modest outlay. They have a small antenna and could be mounted on a temporary pole. The equipment could be transported to each Test venue during the season.

On the other hand the radio description of a groundsman, supervised by the umpires, using a towel and a black bin liner to mop up water on the pitch is perhaps too good an entertainment to lose.

Yours,
IAN DILWORTH (Director, Radio
Frequency Engineering Centre),
University of Essex,
Department of Electronic Systems
Engineering,
Colchester, Essex CO4 3SQ.
June 9.

Train speed record

From Mr D. R. Wallace

Sir, Your report of June 3 on the new British passenger-train speed record and your rather patronising editorial in the same issue overlook an important point: the French and Japanese trains which you mention achieve their high speeds on new purpose-built track, with no slow-moving freight trains, few junctions and long straight stretches. In contrast, the new British record was set on a route built in the middle of the 19th century, when speeds of even 100mph were scarcely dreamed of.

The fact that this new speed record is a modest 10mph or so more than the previous one, set in 1985, is testimony to the failure of successive British governments to invest in railway infrastructure, rather than to any shortcoming in British technological expertise.

When the new link between the Channel Tunnel and London is completed, speeds similar to those achieved in France will at last be possible in this country.

Yours faithfully,
D. R. WALLACE,
6 St Thomas's Close,
Prudhoe, Northumberland.
June 3.

Oxford protest

From Mr Simon Armitage

Sir, You report today (News in Brief, later editions) a survey showing that a majority of Oxford students have taken part-time jobs to help to make ends meet, and that 44 per cent of them have missed meals to save money; on average they have debts of £1,718 which they expect to increase in the near future.

It seems to me that university education is preparing these students admirably for the big bad world.

Yours faithfully,
SIMON ARMITAGE,
27 Oakwood Drive,
St Albans, Hertfordshire.
June 7.

May holidays

From Mr John F. Martin

Sir, General Sir John Hackett (letter, June 2) is right to draw attention to the anomalous state of public holidays especially in spring. Unless some action is taken before the year 2000 we shall then have the absurdity of Bank Holidays on two successive Mondays, since Easter Sunday that year is April 23 and the following May Day falls on a Monday.

Yours truly,
JOHN F. MARTIN,
57 Tycehurst Hill,
Loughton, Essex.
June 3.

From Mr Alan Halliday

Sir, I do not believe that Whit Monday has some prior claim to being the public holiday in May. May Day (ie, May 1) was celebrated by one and all long before Christian holidays came into vogue.

Yours faithfully,
A. HALLIDAY,
66 Banbury Road, Oxford.
June 2.

Sporting double

From Mr Martin Porter

Sir, But there is a second Circle Line train on the London Underground. Surely Mr Goodeve (letter, June 8) takes it to work in the morning.

Yours faithfully,
MARTIN PORTER,
2 Temple Gardens, EC4.
June 9.

COURT CIRCULAR

BUCKINGHAM PALACE
June 9: The Queen, Duke of Lancaster, today visited the Crewe Estate of the Duchy of Lancaster, accompanied by the Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster (the Rt Hon David Hunt MP).

Her Majesty arrived this morning at Crewe Station and was received by Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant of Cheshire (Mr William Bromley Davenport) and the Mayor of Crewe and Nantwich (Councillor Ronald Salmon).

The Queen drove to the Duchy Estate Office at Stowford, Weston, was received by the Clerk of the Council (Mr Michael Ridley) and viewed an exhibition of plans and development projects.

Her Majesty afterwards toured the Estate, visiting Park Farm (Tenants, Mr and Mrs David Lewis), Englesea House (Chairman, Fayrefield Foods, Mr John Kerr), Flash Farm (Tenants, Mr and Mrs Lawton) and Limes Farm (Tenants, Mr and Mrs Marshall Barber).

The Queen later honoured the Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster with her presence at Luncheon.

The Lady Susan Hussey, Major Sir Shane Blewitt, Mr Simon Gimson and Major James Patrick were in attendance.

The Duke of Edinburgh, Patron, this morning visited the Royal Burnham Yacht Club and started the 1995 Royal Ocean Racing Club Burnham to Ostend Race.

Brigadier Miles Hunt-Davis was in attendance.

June 9: The Duke of York, Patron, Royal Liverpool Golf Club, this evening attended a Celebration Dinner to mark the One Hundredth Amateur Championship at the Golf Club, Hoylake, and was received by Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant of Merseyside (Mr Alan Waterworth).

Captain Neil Blair RN was in attendance.

BUCKINGHAM PALACE
June 9: The Princess Royal this morning arrived at Heathrow Airport, London, from Washington, United States of America.

Lieutenant Colonel Peter Gibbs was in attendance.

ST JAMES'S PALACE
June 9: The Prince of Wales today visited Leeds and was received by Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant of West Yorkshire (Mr John Lyles).

His Royal Highness, President, *Business in the Community*, this morning visited DuPont Howson, Seacroft.

The Prince of Wales this afternoon visited the Ebor Gardens Estate.

His Royal Highness, President, The Prince's Trusts, later visited Tetley's Brewery Wharf.

The Prince of Wales afterwards visited the Chapeltown and Harehills Action Learning Centre, Chapeltown.

Mr Matthew Butler was in attendance.

KENSINGTON PALACE
June 9: The Princess of Wales, *Patron, Serpentine Gallery*, this morning attended the Centenary Exhibition of the Venice Biennale in Venice, Italy.

Mr Patrick Jephson and Mr Geoffrey Crawford were in attendance.

YORK HOUSE
June 9: The Duke of Kent, Chairman of Trustees, this evening attended the opening dinner of the *United Kingdom Leadership Forum* Conference, Brunel University, Kingston Lane, Uxbridge, Middlesex. Mr Nicolas Adamson was in attendance.

The Duchess of Kent, Patron, the Rupert Fund, this afternoon attended a lunch, Holkham Hall, Wells-next-the-Sea, Norfolk, and *was met on arrival by Mr Anthony* Duckworth-Chad (Deputy Lieutenant of Norfolk).

Fiona, Lady Astor of Hever was in attendance.

Weekend birthdays

The Duke of Edinburgh celebrates his 74th birthday today.

Today
Mr Leonard Badham, former vice-chairman, J. Lyons and Company, 72; Mr Brian Baldock, deputy chairman, Guinness, 61; Mr W.G. Barr, former Rector, Exeter College, Oxford, 78; Mr Saul Bellow, writer, 80; Mrs Susan Bodinham, Headmistress, St Mary's School, Wantage, 44; the Right Rev L.W. Brown, former Bishop of St Edmundsbury and Ipswich, 83; Mr Peter Butler, MP, 44; Sir Bryan Cartledge, Principal, Linacre College, Oxford, 64; Sir Christopher Collett, former Lord Mayor of London, 64; Mr Peter Crampton, MEP, 63; the Very Rev G.J.T. Forbes, provost, St Mary's Cathedral, Edinburgh, 44; Sir Brinsley Ford, former chairman, National Art-Collections Fund, 87; Lord Justice Peter Gibson, 61; Mr Graham Carleton Greene, publisher, 59; Mr R.P. Halward, Governor, Manchester prison, 44; Sir William Harris, civil engineer, 83; Mr Guy Harwood, racehorse trainer, 58; Sir Arthur Hawkins, former chairman, CEGB, 82; Mrs Phyllis Hetzel, former President, Lucy Cavendish College, Cambridge, 77; Dr Polly Hill, anthropologist, 81; Mr Lionel Jeffries, actor, 69; Mr Simon Jenkins, former Editor, *The Times*, 52; Mr Michael Kenny, sculptor, 54; Sir Geoffrey Otton, civil servant, 68; Mr Tom Pendry, MP, 61; Mr Anthony Rooley, lutenist, 51; Mr Phil Tuck, jockey, 39; Major-General Michael Walsh, former Chief Scout, 68.

Tomorrow
Mr Jean Alesi, racing driver, 31; Mr Tony Allcock, bowler, 40; Miss Diana Armfield, painter, 75; Mr John Aspinall, founder, Howletts Zoo Park, 69; Mr James Bostock, painter and engraver, 78; The Rev Dr Richard A Burridge, Dean, King's College, London, 40; Mr Michael Cacoyannis, film director, 73; Lord Cameron of Lochbroom, 64; Miss Cynthia Cooke, former matron-in-chief, QARNNS, 76; M Jacques Cousteau, marine explorer, 85; Mr John Dyson, cricketer, 41; Lord Justice Evans, 61; Sir Marcus Fox, MP, 68; Mr Athol Fugard, actor and playwright, 63; Sir Robert Gerken, chairman, Plymouth Development Corporation, 63; Dame Beryl Grey, prima ballerina, 68; Mr J. Dundas Hamilton, former chairman, Wates City of London Properties, 76; Mrs Rachael Heyhoe Flint, cricketer, 56; Mr Alan Howarth, MP, 51; Mr Hugh Laurie, actor, 36; Mr Paul Mellon, former president, Washington National Gallery of Art, 88; Mr Michael Meyer, writer, 74; Mr Anthony Nelson, MP, 47; Mrs Jennifer Pitman, racehorse trainer, 49; Mr Barry Porter, MP, 56; the Hon Sir Timothy Sainsbury, MP, 63; Mr J.W.R. Shakespeare, diplomat, 65; Mr Jackie Stewart, former racing driver, 56; Mr Richard Todd, actor, 76; Sir Gerard Vaughan, MP, 72; Mr Gene Wilder, actor, 60; General Sir Michael Wilkes, 55.

Memorial service

Sarah L. de Chair
A Memorial and Thanksgiving service in celebration of the life of Sarah Louise de Chair, née Trubshawe, will take place in London at St Columba's Church of Scotland, Pont Street, at 12.45pm on Thursday, July 6. Those attending are encouraged to come dressed as they would be anyway for the day.

Appointment

Mr Dick Thomson to be Ambassador (resident) to Dominica from September in succession to Mr John Flynn (non-resident).

ROBIN MAYES

Man overboard: Wolfgang Bartzsch, a former merchant seaman, has a slight mishap while helping to launch a model of the royal yacht *Britannia* at the model boat show at the National Maritime Museum, Greenwich, south London, yesterday. The show is open from 10am to 6pm today and tomorrow

Royal engagements

Today
The Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh will attend the Epsom Derby at 12.55.

The Princess Royal, as Honorary President of the Scottish Motor Neurone Disease Association, will attend the annual conference and meeting at Battleby Conference Centre, Perth, at 12.25.

Tomorrow
The Duke of Edinburgh, as Patron and Trustee of The Duke of Edinburgh's Award, and President of the Guards Polo Club will visit the club at Smith's Lawn, Windsor, at 12.30.

Receptions

Lord Newall
Lord Newall was the host at the annual reunion reception of members *of the Indian Cavalry Officers'* Association held yesterday at the *House of Lords.*

HM Government
Lord Rodger of Earlsferry, the Lord Advocate, was the host yesterday at a reception given by Her Majesty's Government at *Edinburgh Castle to mark the* International Bar Association *meeting and conference.*

Anniversaries

Today
BIRTHS: James Francis Edward Stuart, the "Old Pretender", London, 1688; James Short, optician and astronomer, Edinburgh, 1710; Nicholaus Otto, pioneer of the internal combustion engine, Holzhausen, Germany, 1832; Frederick (Fritz) Loewe, composer, Vienna, 1901; Sir Terence Rattigan, dramatist, London, 1911; Judy Garland, film star, Grand Rapids, Minnesota, 1922.

DEATHS: Frederick I, "Barbarossa", Holy Roman Emperor 1152-90, Armenia, 1190; King George I, reigned 1714-27, Osnabruck, Germany, 1727; Thomas Hearne, antiquary, Oxford, 1735; André-Marie Ampère, physicist, Marseilles, 1836; Richard John Seddon, Prime Minister of New Zealand 1893-1906, at sea, 1906; Frederick Delius, composer, Grez-sur-Loing, 1934; Jack Johnson, world heavyweight boxing champion 1910-15, North Carolina, 1946; Sigrid Undset, novelist, Nobel laureate 1928, Lillehammer, Norway, 1949; Spencer Tracy, actor, 1967.

Fourteen women and five men were hanged at the end of the witch-hunt trials, Salem, 1692.

The first Oxford and Cambridge boat race took place, 1829.

Wagner's opera *Tristan and Isolde* was first performed in Munich, 1865.

Tomorrow
BIRTHS: Ben Jonson, dramatist, Westminster, 1572; George Wither, poet, Brentworth, Hampshire, 1588; John Constable, painter, East Bergholt, Suffolk, 1776; Mrs Humphry Ward, novelist, Hobart, Tasmania, 1851; Richard Strauss, composer, Munich, 1864.

DEATHS: Roger Bacon, philosopher and education reformer, Oxford, 1292; James III, King of Scotland 1460-88, murdered, Milltown, 1488; Sir John Franklin, explorer, *King William Island*, Canada, 1847; Klemens Metternich, statesman, Vienna, 1859; Sir Frank Brangwyn, painter, Ditchling, Sussex, 1956; Billy "Bombardier" Wells, British heavyweight boxing champion 1911-19, London, 1967; Alexander Kerensky, Prime Minister of Russia 1917, New York, 1970; John Wayne, film actor, California, 1979.

King Henry VIII married Catherine of Aragon, 1509.

Dutch ships led by Admiral de Ruyter sailed up the Thames and destroyed British ships, 1667.

The first oil was pumped ashore from British oilfields in the North Sea, 1975.

Dinners

Feltmakers' Company
Sir Francis McWilliams, accompanied by Lady McWilliams, presented Ms Jamiela Nazir of the Surrey Institute of Art and Design with the Feltmaker Award for 1995 at a ladies dinner of the Feltmakers' Company held last night at the Mansion House. Mr Derek Hilton, Master, assisted by the Wardens, presided. Mr Trevor McDonald also spoke.

St Bartholomew's Hospital
The Department of Endocrinology of St Bartholomew's Hospital, London, held a dinner at The Garrick Club on June 7, to celebrate the 90th birthday of its Senior Fellow, Dr Cornelius Medvei.

Royal College of Radiologists
Dr R.D. Hunter, Warden of the Faculty of Clinical Oncology of the Royal College of Radiologists, gave a dinner last night at 38 Portland Place for the members of the education board.

Service reception

The Princess of Wales's Royal Regiment
Lieutenant-General Sir Anthony Denison-Smith, Colonel of The Princess of Wales's Royal Regiment, presided at the annual cocktail party held last night at Haberdashers' Hall.

Forthcoming marriages

Mr G.G. Chambers and Miss R.K. Denyer
The engagement is announced between Graeme, only son of Mr and Mrs C. Chambers, of Sherwood, Nottingham, and Rebecca, younger daughter of Mr and Mrs M.S. Denyer, of Pettaugh, Suffolk.

Mr D. Christie and Miss A.H. Macpherson
The engagement is announced between Douglas, elder son of Mr and Mrs Peter Christie, of Durie, Leven, Fife, and Alison, second daughter of Mr and Mrs Neil Macpherson, of Craggie House, Daviot, Inverness.

Dr Y. Chung Chong and Miss C. Saunders Piper
The marriage will take place on Saturday, June 17, 1995, at the Royal Pavilion, Brighton, between Yen Chung Chong and Caroline Patricia, daughter of Mr and Mrs C.J. Piper.

The Earl of Derby and the Hon Caroline Neville
The engagement is announced between The Earl of Derby, son of the late Hon Hugh Stanley and of Mrs William Spiegelberg, of Tarporley, Cheshire, and the Hon Caroline Neville, daughter of Lord Braybrooke, of Audley End, Essex, and Mrs Christopher Parsons, of Bath.

Dr T.R. Foulger and Miss A.G. Russell
The engagement is announced between Timothy Robert (Tim), youngest son of Mr and Mrs Robert Foulger, of Beckenham, Kent, and Annabel, youngest daughter of Mr and Mrs James Russell, of Croyard, Beauly, Inverness-shire.

Mr A.J. Wells and Miss S.K.J. Sturch
The engagement is announced between Andrew, son of Mr and Mrs Ronald Wells, of Knipton, Leicestershire, and Sarah, elder daughter of the Rev Dr R.L. Sturch, of Islip, Oxon, and Mrs Diane Sturch, of Northwood, Middlesex.

Mr J.M. Dawes and Miss I.P. Penn
The engagement is announced between Jonathan, younger son of Mr and Rev Robert Dawes, of Abbots Langley, Hertfordshire, and Isabelle, third daughter of Mr and Mrs Christopher Penn, of Worplesdon, Surrey.

Mr J. McCowan and Dr J.L. Morris
The engagement is announced between Jonathan, son of Mr and Mrs David McCowan, of Brisbane, Australia, and Jane, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs Brian Morris, of West Chiltington, Pulborough, West Sussex.

Mr W.D. Matthei and Miss E.L.M. Dawson
The engagement is announced between Warren, son of Mr and Mrs Warren Matthei, of Glen Cove, New York, USA, and Emma, daughter of Mr and Mrs Robin Dawson, of Gerrards Cross, Buckinghamshire. The marriage will take place on December 30, in London.

Mr D.J. Saunderson and Miss F.T. Philips
The engagement is announced between David, younger son of the late Mr and Mrs Robert Saunderson, of Guilden Morden, Cambridgeshire, and Fiona, eldest daughter of Mr and Mrs Timothy Philips, of Glenealy, Co Wicklow.

Mr R.H.D.St.G. Wise and Miss L.A. Davies
The engagement is announced between Rupert, son of the late W.E. (Willy) Wise and of Mrs Janet Wise, of Rusper, Sussex, and Linda Ann, daughter of Professor and Mrs Glyn Davies, of Pontyclun, Mid-Glamorgan.

Marriage

Mr T. Haziza and Miss A.J. Hope-Mason
The marriage took place on June 1, in Toulouse, France, between Mr Thierry Haziza and Miss Amanda Hope-Mason.

Service luncheons

19th King George V's Own Lancers
Brigadier John Woodroffe presided at the annual luncheon of former officers of the 19th King George V's Own Lancers and their ladies held yesterday at the St Ermin's Hotel.

Skinner's Horse (First Duke of York's Own Cavalry)
Former Officers of Skinner's Horse and their ladies held their annual luncheon at the Cavalry and Guards Club yesterday. Lieutenant-Colonel Douglas Gray presided.

The Central India Horse
Brigadier Thurstan Edward-Collins presided at the annual luncheon of the retired officers of The Central Indian Horse Association UK held yesterday at Claridge's Hotel.

Church services tomorrow

Trinity Sunday

ABERDEEN CATHEDRAL: 8 HC; 10.15 S Euch, Little Organ Mass (Haydn), With all our hearts (Tallis), The Provost; 6.30 Choral E, Brewer in E flat, Festival Te Deum (Britten), The Provost.

BLACKBURN CATHEDRAL: 8 HC; 9.15 Choral M, Antiphon (Vaughan Williams); 10.30 Euch, Darke in E, The Provost; 4 Choral E, I saw the Lord (Stainer), Canon M Taylor.

BRISTOL CATHEDRAL, College Green: 7.40 M; 8 HC; 10 Euch, Messe Solenelle (Vierne), Author of life divine (Archer), The Dean; 3.30 E, Responses (Clucas), Howells in G, Rejoice the Lord is King (Archer), Canon J Simpson.

CANTERBURY CATHEDRAL: 8 HC; 9.30 M, Rev K Wilkinson; 11 S Euch, Mass for five voices (Byrd), Duo seraphim (Esquivel), Rev S Platten; 3.15 E, Stanford in C, I saw the Lord (Stainer); 6.30 ES, Rev Dr M Chandler.

CARLISLE CATHEDRAL: 10.30 S Euch, Vater unser im Himmelreich (Weinmann), Coronation Mass (Mozart), The Dean; 3 Festival & Procession, Invocation (Selvewright), Stanford in A, How lovely are thy dwellings (Brahms), The Bishop of Lincoln.

CHELMSFORD CATHEDRAL: 8 HC; 9.30 Euch, Rev R Cadman; 11.15 Choral M, Vaughan Williams in G, Hymn to the Trinity (Tchaikovsky), Responses (Rose), Canon R Handscombe; 3 Episcopal Area Service; 6 Choral E, Responses (Rose), Smart in B flat, I saw the Lord (Stainer), Canon B Thompson.

CHESTER CATHEDRAL: 7.45 L; 8 HC; 10 Choral M, Responses (Rose), Purcell in D, The Dean; 11.30 Choral Euch; 2 Scouts Service; 3.30 Choral E, I saw the Lord (Stainer); 6.30 ES, Holy Holy Holy (Schubert), Canon T Dennis.

CHICHESTER CATHEDRAL: 8 HC; 10 M, Responses (Sumsion), If ye love me (Tallis), The Precentor; 11 S Euch, Sacerdotes Domini (Byrd), Rt Rev D Evans; 3.30 E, Bairstow in D, Responses (Sumsion), I saw the Lord (Stainer); 5.15 Seaford College Confirmation.

COVENTRY CATHEDRAL: 7.40 MP; 8 C; 10.30 Euch, Missa Brevis (Britten), Hymn to the Trinity (Tchaikovsky), Canon P Oestreicher; 3 German Lutherans; 5.30 E, Responses (Smith), Stanford in A, I saw the Lord (Stainer).

DERBY CATHEDRAL: 8 HC; 10.45 S Euch, Canterbury mass (How), Hymn to the Trinity (Tchaikowsky), V Rev B Lewers; 4, 6.30 E, I saw the Lord (Stainer), Rev Canon G Marshall.

DURHAM CATHEDRAL: 8, 11.5 HC, Mass in four parts (Byrd), O sacrum convivium (Tallis), Rev M Parker; 10 M, Stanford in A, Hymn of the Cherubim (Gretchaninov), Canon R Coppin; 3 E, German Magnificat (Schutz), Nunc dimittis (Palestrina), Honor virtus et potestas (Tallis).

ELY CATHEDRAL: 8.15 HC; 10.30 S Euch, Gloria (Amner), Jubilate (Purcell), Missa Bel Amfitrit altera/Benedicam Dominum (Lassus), Canon J Carre; 2.15 Remembrance Service; 3.45 E, Hymn to the Trinity (Willis).

EXETER CATHEDRAL: 8 HC; 9.45 S Euch, Jackson in G, Deep peace (Rutter), Canon D Ison; 11.15 M, Responses (Clucas), Hymn to the Trinity (Tchaikovsky), The Dean; 3 E, I saw the Lord (Stainer); 6.30 E, Hymn to the Trinity (Gretchaninoff), The Priest Vicar.

GUILDFORD CATHEDRAL: 8, HC; 9.45 S Euch, Mass for four voices (Byrd), Ascendit Deus (Phillips), Rev Professor D Martin; 11.15 M, Te Deum in B flat (Stanford), The Dean; 6.30 E, Noble in B minor, Rev P Malins.

LEICESTER CATHEDRAL: 8 HC; 10 MP; 10.30 S Euch, Darke in F, Let all the world (Vaughan Williams), The Provost; 4 Choral E, Watson in E flat, The Canon Chancellor; 6 St John Ambulance Service, The Provost.

LICHFIELD CATHEDRAL: 8 HC; 10.30 S Euch, Missa Brevis (Berkeley), Jubilate Deo (Walton), Pater Noster (Stravinsky), The Chancellor; 3.30 E & Conf, Responses (Walsh), Kelly in C.

LINCOLN CATHEDRAL: 7.45 L; 8 HC; 9.30 S Euch, Missa Brevis (Stanford in C).

LIVERPOOL CATHEDRAL: 10.30 Ordination, Guest Missa Sarisburiensis, Rev J Bowen; 3 Choral E, Murrill in E; 4 HC.

LLANDAFF CATHEDRAL: 7.30 M; 8, 12.15 H Euch; Rev J Harris; 9 Euch, Rev N Court; 11 S Euch, Messe Solennelle (Langlais), Creed (Shaw), The Canon; 3.30 Choral E, Strengthen ye the weak hands (Harris), Rev M Maund; 6.30 E, Rev Boon-Hor Khoo.

MANCHESTER CATHEDRAL: 9 HC; 10.30 S Euch, Schubert in G, Great Lord of Lords (Gibbons), Canon Bruce Duncan; 6.30 E; Deo Gratias (Byrd), Rev Bill Raines.

NEWCASTLE CATHEDRAL: 7.30 M; 8 HC, The Provost; 9.30 S Euch, Let all mortal flesh (Bairstow), The Provost; 6 Choral E, The Bishop.

SOUTHWARK CATHEDRAL: 9 Euch; 11 Choral Euch, Meane mass (Taverner), Alleluia I heard a voice (Weelkes), Rev Canon M Kitchen; 3 E, St John's Service (Tippett), Hail gladdening light (Wood), Rev Canon R White.

TRURO CATHEDRAL: 8 HC; 9 M; 10 S Euch, Ego sum panis vivus (Palestrina), Missa Brevis (Berkeley), Ave verum corpus (Elgar), The Curate; 6 E, Responses (Sanders), Hear my prayer (Mendelssohn), Canon A Matthew.

WAKEFIELD CATHEDRAL: 8 HC; 9.15 C. Litany to the Holy Spirit (Hurford), Canon G Nairn-Briggs; 11 S Euch, Missa Sancti Nicolai (Haydn), We praise thee O God (Purcell), Rev A Jennins; 6.30 SE, Responses (Ayleward), Ave verum Corpus (Elgar).

WELLS CATHEDRAL: 8 HC; 9.45 S Euch, Stanford in C, Hide not thou thy face (Farrant), Rev G Farran; 11.30 M, O sing joyfully (Batten); 3 E, St Mark's service (Gerald Near), Hail gladdening light (Wood), Ven J Burgess.

WESTMINSTER ABBEY: 8 HC; 11 Civic Service, I was glad (Purcell), Rabbi Hugo Gryn; 3 E, O beata et gloriosa Trinitas (Palestrina), Rev M Lawson; 6.30 ES, Rev P Ferguson.

WESTMINSTER CATHEDRAL: 7, 8, 9, 12, 5.30, 7 M; 10.30 SM, Mass for five voices (Byrd), Tibi laus (Philips), Ave verum corpus (Byrd); 10 MP; 3.30 V&B, O salutaris hostia (Elgar).

WINCHESTER CATHEDRAL: 10.30 M, Te Deum in G (Vaughan Williams), The Bishop of Basingstoke; 11.30 Euch, Missa brevis in D (Mozart); 3.30 E, I saw the Lord (Stainer), Canon Walker.

YORK MINSTER: 8, 8.45 HC; 10 S Euch, Missa Brevis (Berkeley), O taste and see (Vaughan Williams), Rev Canon L Stanbridge; 11.30 M, Britten in E, Responses (Smith); 4 E, Jackson in G, I heard a voice (Weelkes), Rev C Tubbs.

ST ASAPH CATHEDRAL, Clwyd: 8 HC; 11, Choral Euch; 5.30 RSCM Diocesan Festival.

ST GEORGE'S CATHEDRAL, Southwark: 8, 10, 6 LM; 11.30 SM, Awake The Harp (Haydn); 3 Civic Services, Rev Canon J Pannett.

ST GILES' CATHEDRAL, Edinburgh: 8 HC; 10 Missa brevis (Kodaly), Rev Dr Bruce Rigdon; 11.30 M, Sanctus (Dvorak), Rev Dr Bruce Rigdon; 6 St Giles at Six, Wernigerode Girls Choir; 8 ES, Rev Sheila Mitchell.

ST PAUL'S CATHEDRAL, London: 8 HC; 8.45 M; 11 S Euch, Missa Brevis (Palestrina), The Cherubic Hymn (Gretchaninoff), Vaughan Williams in G, Venerable G Cassidy; 3.15 E, St Paul's Service (Howells), I saw the Lord (Stainer), Prebendary P Pytches.

ALL SAINTS, Margaret Street, W1: 8, 5.15 LM; 10.20 MP; 11 HM, Mass in G minor (Jongen), I saw the Lord (Stainer), Rev P McGeary; 6 E&B, Howells in G, Rev P Johnstone.

ALL SOULS, Langham Place, W1: 9, 11 C, Rev Dr J Stott; 6.30, Rev P Bewes.

THE ASSUMPTION, Warwick Street, W1: 11 Mass in C (Mozart), Duo Seraphim (Vittoria), O Lord look down (Battishill).

CHELSEA OLD CHURCH, SW3: 8, 12.15 HC; 10 Children; 11 M, A Festival Jubilate (Brian Kelly), Though I speak with the tongues of men (Bairstow), Rev P Elvy; 6 E, Rev P Elvy.

CHRISTIAN SCIENCE CHURCH, 7 Curzon Street, W1Y: 11 Service; 11 School.

CROWN COURT CHURCH OF SCOTLAND, Covent Garden, WC2: 11.15, 6.30 Rev S Hood.

FARM STREET, W1: 7.30, 8.30, 10, 12.15, 4.15, 6.15 LM; 11 HM, Missa Sancti Nicolai (Haydn), Duo Seraphim (Vittoria).

HOLY TRINITY BROMPTON, Brompton Road, SW7: 9 HC, Mr M Wight; 11 Informal, Mr J Jennings; 5, 7.30 Informal, Rev S Millar.

THE ORATORY, Brompton Road, SW7: 7, 8, 9, 10, 11 Mass, Missa Bel'amfitrit altera (Lassus); 12.30, 4.30, 7; 3.30 V & B, Due seraphim (Victoria).

ARMENIAN APOSTOLIC CHURCH: Iverna Gdns, W8: 11 MP, Archbishop Y Gizirian.

WESTMINSTER CENTRAL HALL (Methodist), SW1: 11, Mrs C Tudor; 6.30, Rev Dr R Tudor.

ST ANNE AND ST AGNES (Lutheran), Gresham St, EC2: 11 Choral HC; 7 Lutheran Choral Vespers.

ST BARTHOLOMEW THE GREAT, Smithfield, EC1: 9 HC; 11 M, Britten in C, Tibi laus (Philips), Rev A Winter; 6.30 E, O beata et gloriosa Trinitas (Palestrina), Rev A Winter.

ST BRIDE'S, Fleet Street, EC4: 11 Choral M & Euch; Sumsion in G, St Nicholas (Haydn); Hymn to the Trinity (Tchaikovsky), Canon J Oates; 6.30 Choral E, Responses (Ayleward), Leighton in G, O lux beata Trinitas (Byrd), I saw the Lord (Stainer), Canon J Oates.

ST CLEMENT DANES: 11 M, Walford Davies in G, Where Thou reignest (Schubert), Rev J Petrie.

ST COLUMBA'S CHURCH OF SCOTLAND, Pont Street, SW1: 11, Rev J McIndoe; 6.30 Rev C MacLeod.

ST GEORGE'S, Hanover Square, W1: 8.30 HC; 11 HC, Blake in D, Hymn to the Trinity (Tchaikovsky), The Rector.

ST JAMES'S, Garlickhythe, EC4: 10.30 S Euch, John Paul Rector.

ST JAMES'S, Sussex Gardens, W2: 8 Euch; 10.30 S Euch, Missa (Tom Ockeghem), Hymn to the Trinity (Tchaikovsky); 6 E.

ST JOHN'S, Stratford E15: 11 Family, St Anne Fugue (Bach); 6.30 HC, Rev M Holmden.

ST LUKE'S, Chelsea, SW3: 8 HC; 10.30 MP, Mass for four voices/Sing joyfully (Byrd), Rev S Watson; 6.30 E, Salvator mundi Domine (Sheppard), Rev D Watson.

ST MARK'S, Regents Park Rd, NW1: 8 HC; 9.45 Family C; 11 S Euch, Hymn to the Trinity, (Tchaikovsky), Rev A Shaw.

ST MARGARET'S, Westminster, SW1: 10 M, Canon A Harvey; 11.15 Euch, Darke in F, I saw the Lord (Stainer), Canon D Gray.

ST MARTIN-IN-THE-FIELDS, WC2: 8 HC; 9.45 Euch, Alleluia I heard a voice (Weelkes), Rev J Pridmore; 11.30 Visitors, Responses (Rose), The heralds of Christ (Ashfield), Rev J Pridmore; 2.45 Chinese, Rev G Lee; 5 Choral E, Responses (Rose); 6.30 ES, Rev B Shunemann.

ST MARY ABBOTS CHURCH, Kensington W8: 9.30 Euch, The Vicar; 11.15 Choral M, Civic Service, Rev W Watson; 6.30 E, Ven T Raphael.

ST MARY'S, Bourne Street, SW1: 9, 10, 7 LM; 11 HM, Missa in honorem Sanctissimae Trinitatis (Mozart), Fr B Scott; 6 E&B.

ST MARYLEBONE, Marylebone Road, W1: 8 HC; 11 Choral Euch, Purcell in Perspective.

ST PAUL'S, Wilton Place, SW1: 8, 9 HC; 11 S Euch, Missa L'Hora Passa (Viadana), Angel Spirits ever blessed (Tchaikovsky), O beata et gloriosa Trinitas (Palestrina), Rev C Courtauld.

ST PETER'S, Eaton Square, SW1: 11 S Euch, Missa Brevis/O beata Trinitas (Palestrina), Prelude in E flat (Bach), Fr A Chidwick.

ST STEPHEN'S, Gloucester Road, SW7: 8, 9 LM; 11 SM, Messe Regina Sancti Rosarii (Rheinberger), Maria Mater Gratiae/Ave Verum (Fauré), Canon C Colven.

CHAPEL ROYAL OF ST PETER AD VINCULA, HM Tower of London: 9.15 HC; 11 M, Responses (Ebdon), Stanford in C, O beata et gloriosa Trinitas (Palestrina), Canon B Wright.

CHAPEL ROYAL, St James's Palace: 8.30 HC; 11.15 S Euch, Stanford in B flat, Canon J Bean.

CHAPEL ROYAL, Hampton Court Palace: 8.30 HC; 11 M, Coll Reg (Howells), I saw the Lord (Stainer); 3.30 E, How beauteous are their feet (Stanford), Wesley in E, Alleluia I heard a voice (Weelkes).

GROSVENOR CHAPEL, South Audley Street, W1: 8.15 HC; 11 S Euch, Mass for four voices (Monteverdi), Tibi laus tibi gloria (Philips), Rev S Hobbs.

QUEEN'S CHAPEL OF THE SAVOY, WC2: 11 M, Cole in E Minor, Hymn to the Trinity (Tchaikovsky); 12.30 HC, Rev P Boardman.

GRAY'S INN CHAPEL, 8 South Sq, WC1R: MP, Ave Maria (Stravinsky), Rev Canon W Norman.

THE TEMPLE CHURCH, Fleet Street: 8.30 HC; 11.15 MP, Responses (Ayleward), The Master.

GUARDS CHAPEL, Wellington Barracks, SW1: 11 M, Holy Holy (Schubert), O holy and glorious Trinity (Palestrina), Rev F Cable; 12 HC.

ROYAL NAVAL COLLEGE CHAPEL, Greenwich, SE10: 11 S Euch, The Holy Eucharist (Harris), Not unto us O Lord (Walmisley), Rev N Kelly.

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I call to mind the deeds of the Lord: I recall your wonderful acts of old.
Psalm 77 : 11 (REB).

BIRTHS

ALDRED - On June 6th at The Portland Hospital, to Caroline (née Whiteley) and Duncan, a son, James Alexander, a brother for William and Edward.

BARBER - On June 6th, to Pippa (née Shephard) and Keith, a daughter, Olivia Alice, a sister for Helena.

BECKETT - On June 8th at The Portland Hospital, to Rivinia (née Crammond) and Robert, a son, Ivo, a brother for Roman.

BROMWICH - On 8th June at St Thomas' Hospital, to Maeve and Simon, a handsome son, Max Robert Ivor.

CARPENTER - On June 4th 1995 in Dover, to Rosie (née Hendry) and Steve, a son, Daniel Sebastian.

COOK - To Kinian Patterson (née Ford) and Timothy Kieran Alan, a daughter, Xinian Aloise Ford on Monday 29th May 1995 at Mount Elizabeth Hospital, Singapore.

HANCOCK - On 8th June 1995, to Charlotte (née Murray) and Christopher, a daughter, Alice Mary.

HARDING - To Peter and Chantelle (née Dick), at the Royal Berkshire Hospital, Reading, on 7th June 1995, another beautiful daughter, Venetia, a sister to Piers and Victoria. Our grateful thanks to all concerned.

INGE - On 7th June 1995, to Jane (née Crellin) and Bill, a beautiful daughter, Philippa Charlotte.

JACKSON - On May 21st at The Royal Sussex County Hospital, to Anne-Marie and Simon, a beautiful boy, Matthew George Anthony, a brother to Joseph.

KAMRUDEEN - Born to Leslie and Sandy at The Portland Hospital on 1st June, a beautiful baby girl, Zara, a sister for Robert Kamrudeen. God bless our family.

BIRTHS

KAY - On June 6th 1995, to Caroline (née Wainwright) and Geoffrey, a daughter, Annabel Fleur, a sister for Edmund.

LORENZ - On June 8th at St Thomas' Hospital, to Helen and Andrew, a beautiful boy, Harry Alexander Lewis, a brother for James. Thanks to Mr Ian Ferguson, The Special Care Baby Unit and all on the Lansdell Suite.

MILNER - On May 31st 4.29am at The Portland Hospital, to Moira (née Brooker) and Anthony, a beautiful daughter, Daisy, a granddaughter to Victor and Ethel.

MONTGOMERIE - On 7th June at Queen Charlotte's Hospital, to Karen and Rory, a son, Alexander James.

NORBURY - On 6th June 1995, to Fiona (née Nicolle) and Jonathan, a son, Hugo Edward Wheatley.

REDMOND - On June 2nd, in Bonn, Germany, to Maeve and Alex, the most darling little boy, Joshua Alexander.

SANDY - On Friday June 2nd at Wythenshawe Hospital, Manchester, to Susan (née Shaw) and William, a daughter, Jessica Emma, a sister for Thomas William.

SHAW - On 4th June 1995, to Alison (née Pitt) and Simon, a son, Jonathan Ellis.

STANIER - On June 7th 1995, to Jill (née Neaves) and Alexander, a daughter, Jessica Gwen Persephone.

TREHERNE - On 8th June, to Emma (née McGloughlin) and Mark, a daughter, Lara Ophelia, a sister for Tom.

VITELLI - To Siobhan and Alessandro, a daughter, Laura Francesca, on June 5th 1995.

WALLACE-DE NEVE - On June 6th at The Portland Hospital, to Mark and Ingrid, a son, Toby - eagerly awaited brother for Duncan and Tessa.

WOODWARD - On 8th June, to Keith and Sally (née Spragg), a son, Henry George.

DEATHS

BOYD - Suddenly at his home in Crail on Monday June 5th 1995, Stephen Joseph Boyd M.A., Oxon, aged 38, Department of English St Andrews University. Devoted daddy of Patrick and Rory, dearly loved son of Margaret and the late John Boyd, much loved brother of David and Katherine, very dear brother-in-law of Alex and dear uncle of the family. Mass at St James R.C. Church, The Scores, St Andrews, on Monday June 12th at 2 pm. Reception and vigil at St Joseph's Church, Milngavie, at 7.30 pm on Monday June 12th. Requiem Mass at 10 am on Tuesday June 13th, thereafter to Clydebank Crematorium, North Dalnottar for 11 am.

CONNOLLY - On Wednesday June 7th 1995, peacefully at home in Sevenoaks, Peter James aged 69. Deeply loved husband of Yvonne and loving father of Tim, Pip, John and Tom, father-in-law of Beverley and Sarah and grandfather of Ruth. Requiem Mass at St Thomas of Canterbury, Sevenoaks, on Monday June 19th at 11am. Flowers, or donations to the Franciscan Missionary Sisters for Africa c/o Francis Chappell & Sons, 27 London Road, Sevenoaks, Kent TN13 1AR.

DENT - On June 9th 1995, Frances Georgina aged 70, peacefully after a short illness bravely fought. Mother of Charlie and Paddy and adored Ga-Ga of James, Sarah, Benjamin and Annabel. Service of Thanksgiving to be held at St John the Baptist, Hunsingore, at 2.30 pm on Thursday 15th June. No flowers please but donations, if desired, to the Injured Jockey's Fund, PO Box 9, Newmarket, Suffolk.

FINDLAY - On June 8th, Marjorie Mary (Marnie) of Lyddington, Uppingham, Leics. Funeral Service at Church of St Andrew's, Lyddington, on Friday June 16th at 2.30 pm. Family flowers only. Donations, if desired, to Cancer Research Fund c/o E.M. Dorman Funeral Director, 10 Main Street, Bisbrooke, Uppingham, Rutland, Leics. LE15 9EP.

FRANCIS - On June 2nd, peacefully, Major Anthony John Francis, aged 78. Loving father of Juliet and John. Cremation on Thursday 15th June at 2 pm at the Tunbridge Wells Crematorium. Family flowers only, donations to the British Red Cross Society c/o E.R. Hickmott & Son, 41 Grove Hill Road, Tunbridge Wells, TN1 1SD.

GREGORY - On June 8th, peacefully after a short illness but a long disablement, Joyce Ellis (Jo) née Felton, wife of Dr. James Gregory of Killinghall, Harrogate. Service and interment at Killinghall Parish Church on Tuesday June 13th 1995 at 11 am. No flowers please. Donations in lieu, if desired, to The Multiple Sclerosis Society c/o A. Vause & Son Funeral Directors, Harrogate, tel: (01423) 504417 to whom all enquiries should be directed.

HARVEY - (Makins), on June 8th 1995, in Cornwall, Penelope, beloved wife of Peter (Lord Harvey of Tasburgh), she will be deeply missed by her daughters Juliet and Miranda, her sister Carolyn and her many friends and relations. There will be a Memorial Service at Mylor Church, Cornwall, on Thursday 20th July at 3.30pm. All welcome. Donations, if desired, for The Mermaid Appeal c/o The Funeral Directors, W.J. Beswetherick & Son Ltd., Central House, Fairmantle Street, Truro. tel: (01872) 74021.

FULLER - On June 9th, in Salisbury Hospice, after a debilitating illness bravely and patiently borne, Major Michael Francis Fuller, The Durham Light Infantry (rtd). Loved husband of Mariota (née Carfrae) and father of Shaun and Miles. Cremation private.

LOOSEMORE - On 7th June, peacefully at Wimpstone, Stratford-upon-Avon, John Henry. Funeral Service at Wimpstone on Tuesday June 13th at 11 am, followed by committal at Putney Vale Crematorium at 3.30 pm. Family flowers, but donations if desired in aid of Shipston-on-Stour Medical Centre and Oncology Unit, St Mary's Hospital Paddington, either at Church, Crematorium or c/o R. Locke & Son, Funeral Directors, Brailes, Banbury, Oxon. OX15 5AZ.

LYALL - Colin Alexander B.Sc Maj. R.E. Ret'd, of Wells, peacefully on June 8th aged 72 years, cherished by his wife Lynda, his children and grandchildren. Funeral Service at St Mary Magdalene Church, Wookey Hole, on Thursday June 15th 2 pm, followed by cremation at Haycombe, Bath. Donations for St Margaret's Hospice, Taunton may be forwarded to Hill & Son Funeral Director, 20 St Thomas' Street, Wells, Somerset.

RAWES - On June 8th at The Sue Ryder Home, Cheltenham after a brave struggle against cancer, Bernard Frederick Rawes, F.S.A., second son of the late Prescott and May Rawes of Oporto, Portugal, beloved husband of Barbara, much loved father of Julian and grandfather of Rowans and dear brother of Francis, Lavender and Michael. The Funeral Service will take place at Cheltenham Cemetery Chapel on Wednesday June 14th at 2.15 pm. Family flowers only; if desired donations for Sue Ryder c/o Selma Smith & Co., 74 Prestbury Road, Cheltenham.

REDDY - Sqdn. Ldr. Venkat Keshow of Hyderabad, India, passed away on 8th June 1995 in London aged 78. Keshow was the son of Chief Justice V. Lakshman Reddy and the dearly loved husband of Anusha and father of Rukhmini, Indira and Lakshman. Cremation at Golders Green Crematorium, Hoop Lane, London N11 at 4pm on 13th June 1995. Flowers should be sent on the day by 12 noon to Leverton & Sons Ltd., 212 Eversholt Street, London NW1 1BD, tel: (0171) 387-6075.

RICHARDS - William Henry (Dick) of Ruislip, Middlesex, peacefully on 6th June aged 88 years. Dearly loved husband of Edna, father of the late Jean, grandfather of Anthony and Adrian, great-grandfather of Jonathan. Service at 10.45 am on 15th June at Breakspear Crematorium, Breakspear Road, Ruislip.

ROBERTS - Kathleen (née Cowley) died suddenly on 6th June 1995. A gifted teacher, she was the beloved wife of Tom; mother of Ceridwen, Hugh and Siân; mother-in-law of Tyrrell and Stephen; grannie of Isabel; friend to many. Funeral Service at the Parish Church of St John-at-Hampstead on Friday 16th June at 12 noon. Family flowers only. Donations if wished to Amnesty International, 99-119 Rosebery Avenue, London EC1R 4RE. Enquiries to Leverton & Sons (0171) 387-6075.

ROBERTSON - On 7th June suddenly but peacefully at home Sheila Mary in her 94th year, widow of Major General Cecil Robertson, very much loved and loving mother, grandmother and great-grandmother. Funeral Service at Chudleigh Parish Church at 12 noon on Wednesday June 14th. Flowers to Sydney Caunter and Son, Arncott House, Chudleigh, Devon.

SHAW - Warren, OBE, formerly Representative of the British Council in Tanzania and Ghana, died aged 68 in hospital in London on June 6th after complications following an operation. A small cremation ceremony will take place at Mortlake Cemetery, Richmond, on June 13th at 11 am. Donations may be made to Ghana School Aid. There will be a Memorial Celebration at a later date. For details call (0181) 553-9814/(0171) 249-4342.

FUNERAL ARRANGEMENTS

VERNON-WARREN - Bettina. The funeral service will take place at St James Church, Fulmer, Friday 16th June 2 pm. Family flowers only, donations if desired to Cancer Research Campaign.

IN MEMORIAM – PRIVATE

VALK - Frederick, 10th June 1895 - 23rd July 1956. On the Centenary of his birth, his sons Robin and William commemorate his life and work in the theatre.

BIRTHDAYS

CONGRATULATIONS to [illegible] of [illegible]. [illegible] celebrating his 80th birthday. Congratulations and best wishes for many more from all family and friends

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TICKETS FOR SALE
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PROFESSIONAL chinese couple appeal to ethnic donors for eggs of women aged 18-35. Donors must have at least 1 child. Koreans, Japanese and Vietnamese are also eligible. Call Kath on 01726 815504 or Claire on 0121 325 3156 quoting ref JBA2.

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LEGAL NOTICES

ARNDILLY FISHINGS LIMITED
(IN MEMBERS' VOLUNTARY LIQUIDATION)
Company number : 2022150
NOTICE TO THE CREDITORS OF ARNDILLY FISHINGS LIMITED

On 25 May 1995 the company was placed in members' voluntary liquidation and Roger Marsh and Anthony John Patrick Brereton of Price Waterhouse were appointed liquidators by the shareholders.

The liquidators give notice under the provisions of Rule 4.182A of the Insolvency Rules 1986 that the creditors of the company must send details, in writing, of any claim against the company to the liquidators at Price Waterhouse, 9 Bond Court, Leeds, LS1 2SN by 6 July 1995 which is the last day for proving claims.

The company is able to pay all its known creditors in full.

Date 1 June 1995
R.Marsh
Joint Liquidator
RZM/TAB/LMVARDA/050LP.

OBITUARIES

BRIGADIER REGINALD HUDSON

Brigadier Reginald Hudson, DSO, former garrison commander at Woolwich, died on May 26 aged 90. He was born on August 22, 1904.

REGGIE Hudson won his DSO in the Ardennes while commanding 83 Field Regiment in the Second World War. The citation for his award, during some of the fiercest fighting in the battle for North West Europe, praised not only the high standard of his gunners but the cool determination and judgment shown by Hudson himself under fire. His sense of duty while supporting 158 infantry brigade in the painful Allied advance towards Hitler's heartland was an "inspiration" to those serving around him.

Yet Hudson, who was also mentioned in dispatches about the same time, might be remembered in the history of the Royal Artillery (RA) for his battles in peacetime rather than for those in war.

On retiring from active service in December 1957 he became secretary of the Royal Artillery Institution, a job which he held for the next three and a half years. As such he helped to restructure the regiment's finances during that time. After a two-year fight in the High Court, a straggling forest of RA trusts, including ten major ones, was successfully pruned down to two, while at the same time the institution itself won charitable status. By coincidence, Hudson died just as his current successors at Woolwich are attempting to splice the remaining two trusts into one.

He was still better known, however, as a cricketer, who captained not only his regiment but the Army. His proudest moment was when he led the Army XI against a team of Australians captained by Bradman, and a photograph of the two men tossing a coin remained among the brigadier's most cherished possessions.

He played for the MCC and for the Free Foresters, scored more than one century at Lords and had a batting career average in the high 40s. The new RA cricket pavilion at Woolwich, in whose funding he became involved in later life, is named the "Reginald Hudson pavilion" in memory of him.

Reginald Eustace Hamilton Hudson was born in northern Bihar, India, where his father was a sugar cane planter. He was sent back to boarding school in this country, passing from Haileybury to the Royal Military Academy Woolwich — where gunners and engineers were trained before the war.

He was commissioned into the artillery in 1924, and after spending two years at Shorncliffe, near Folkestone, went back to India — the first of several postings in the sub-continent and the Far East.

After serving with the North-West Frontier Police at Peshawar he returned to Britain where he instructed at the RMA Woolwich in the mid-1930s. He was a student at staff college when the war broke out, then joined the British Expeditionary Force fighting in France.

Hudson often recalled his arrival at Dunkirk with the headquarters staff of 4th division. The beach was quiet and deserted when they arrived, so they snatched some much-needed sleep amid the dunes, to recuperate after an exhausting hike along the coastline.

They awoke to find a Thames barge in the water, towed by a tug which had appeared by magic and seemed to be waiting for them. They immediately clambered aboard and sailed home without incident.

A sequence of staff jobs awaited Hudson's return, before he took over command of 83 Field Regiment in 1942. He led the regiment through Europe until VE-Day. There followed a succession of postings in the Far East, in India, Malaya and Ceylon — where he was on the staff of the Supreme Allied Commander South-East Asia, Lord Louis Mountbatten. Then between 1948 and 1950 he served for the first and last time at the War Office.

Hudson served in anti-aircraft artillery posts for several years before moving to his final appointment as garrison commander at Woolwich in 1955. Few jobs could have pleased him more than this last command, at the ancestral home of the artillery — to whom he remained devoted to the end.

He left his first retirement job as secretary of the RA Institution in 1961 to become a chairman of the Committee of Voluntary Welfare Work in the British Army of the Rhine. But then in 1964 at the age of 60 he resigned from that too and spent the next 30 years in quiet retirement.

Reggie Hudson was a formidable sportsman, not just at cricket. He also represented the RMA Woolwich and then the RA at hockey, squash and even rugby — despite his slight, willowy build.

He was a gentle man with a sense of humour to match and an infectious chuckle. But he remained at the same time a private man who had an inner reserve which was hard to penetrate.

Hudson, who died in a nursing home, married twice but was predeceased by both his wives. He had no children and is survived by a niece.

BETTINA VERNON

Bettina Vernon, Austrian dancer, died on June 5 aged 75. She was born in Vienna on February 22, 1920.

Bettina Vernon, left, with Evelyn Ippen in Ballet for Two, London, 1949

BETTINA VERNON preserved a piece of dance history by keeping alive the memory of one of the pioneers of modern dance, her former teacher, Gertrud Bodenwieser. Had it not been for Vernon, Bodenwieser might have passed out of recognition like so many others of her generation.

Vernon was born Bettina Lancer in Vienna soon after the First World War, the daughter of a musicologist. She grew up amid the diminished glories of what had once been one of Europe's most exciting cities for music, painting, politics and science. While young, her childish and untaught attempts at expressive dancing impressed a painter, Otto Friedrich, who encouraged her father to enrol her in the Vienna State Academy of music and theatre. The dance department there was under Bodenwieser's direction, who had been trying to translate the mechanical movements then fashionable into a real dance style.

There Vernon studied ballet as well as the new central European style of dance which at that time was as lively and influential as the different — and eventually more enduring — developments taking place in America. Vernon was still a student (although she had danced on a tour of Holland with Bodenwieser) when Hitler anexed Austria in 1938. She was however already married and fled with her husband to Paris, where unfortunately the Nazis caught up with him in 1940 and executed him.

Vernon returned to Vienna and completed her diploma. Bodenwieser too had gone abroad to escape the Germans. She and her group were in Colombia when the Second World War broke out, but in 1940 she managed to reach Australia, where she reformed her company and opened a school in Sydney. This continued until Bodenwieser's death in 1959, but left no great mark on dance in her adopted homeland.

After graduating, Vernon travelled to Australia and joined the Bodenwieser company, becoming one of its leading dancers during the war. Whereas Bodenwieser refused ever to return to a Vienna which held unhappy memories for her, Vernon and another of the soloists, Evelyn Ippen, wanted to work in Europe again. In 1945 they formed themselves into a touring venture as Ballet for Two, performing some of Bodenwieser's dances as well as their own choreography, accompanied by a solo piano.

During the 1950s, after Vernon married her second husband, Wing Commander Charles Warren, Ballet for Two was based in Britain although still undertaking some tours abroad. Its work was admired by some influential senior critics.

Even after she had stopped dancing, Vernon remained passionate about Bodenwieser's work, and wanted to inform new generations about a woman whose work would have otherwise been consigned to no more than a passing reference in a textbook.

Vernon gave lectures and classes, organised exhibitions, and luckily was helped by the interest in Viennese dance history of the then director of the Vienna State Opera Ballet, Dr Gerhard Brunner. He and his colleagues provided dancers who worked with Vernon in reconstructing some of Bodenwieser's dances. These were then performed publicly and preserved on video thus becoming available to future generations.

Although ill with cancer, for the past decade, Vernon gave no sign of this: all her energy, enthusiasm and zest were devoted to her self-allotted task, and she was preparing for further demonstrations in Russia when she died. She is survived by her second husband.

LORD ERSKINE OF RERRICK

***Lord Erskine of Rerrick,* 2nd Baron, died of prostate cancer in London on June 8 aged 69. He was born on January 22, 1926.**

Lord and Lady Erskine of Rerrick

LITTLE can be asserted with any great confidence about the life of the 2nd Lord Erskine of Rerrick. To take him at (his own) face value as "professional photographer, management consultant and director of companies" would involve being at odds with the known career of a man whose photographic *oeuvre* is, to say the least, less than widely-known and whose consultancies and directorships were held against a background of debt, bankruptcy and other tangible evidences of indigence.

His "admitted links" to British intelligence inhabited a similar factual penumbra. To be sure, his name was often cropping up in circumstances suggesting profound and subtle depths of international espionage: Greville Wynne, Adil Nasir and Saddam Hussein were figures with whose affairs his name was linked in press stories from time to time. But when pushed, neither government spokesmen nor leaders of the intelligence community ever seemed anxious to acknowledge their alleged servant.

What can be stated with certainty is that Iain Maxwell Erskine was born the son of John Maxwell Erskine, who was to be created 1st Lord Erskine of Rerrick in 1964 after a distinguished career with the Commercial Bank of Scotland. Erskine senior was subsequently Governor of Northern Ireland, 1964-68.

Iain Erskine was educated at Harrow. In 1944 he was commissioned into the Grenadier Guards with whom he was to serve for the remainder of the war and thereafter in peacetime, until 1963, retiring as a major.

In that time his posts included that of Comptroller to the Governor-General of New Zealand, 1960-62. Immediately after his retirement he took up the newly-created post of public relations officer to the Household Brigade and when this appointment ended in 1965 went into public relations with the firm of CS Services.

Thereafter, in the plethora of jobs which made up his CV, it was never possible quite to pinpoint where the thrust of his activities was. He was apparently involved in setting up the Advertising Standards Authority in 1965 and later emerged in such varied posts as managing director of Lonrho Iran, 1972-73; chairman of Erskine Associates, 1979-82; and chairman of DK Financial Services (Dai-Ichi Kangyo), 1988-89. He succeeded his father as Lord Erskine of Rerrick in 1980, though in the next 15 years he never took his seat in the House of Lords.

Indeed, the 2nd Lord Erskine of Rerrick's life took on an increasingly itinerant quality. His habitual state was penury, though the casual observer, seeing his chalk stripe suits and otherwise immaculate turnout, would never have guessed this. Before the Gulf War he had apparently been used as an unofficial Foreign Office emissary to Saddam Hussein, with a view to extracting from the Iraqi dictator important details of the supergun. In 1993 after Asil Nadir fled from Britain to Cyprus, Erskine's name cropped up in connection with an alleged MI6 "dirty tricks" campaign against the Polly Peck tycoon.

Erskine was by that time living in Cyprus himself. He had moved there, having been made bankrupt two years earlier after refusing to pay a £28,000 overdraft to the Royal Bank of Scotland. He always claimed the bank (of which the Commercial Bank of Scotland, run by his father, had some years before become a part) was holding secret trusts worth half a million pounds which his father had established in his favour.

He subsequently altered his will to specify that although his body was to be left for medical scientific purposes: "to the Royal Bank of Scotland I leave my balls, as they appear to have none of their own."

In Cyprus he became further insolvent, running up a £2,000 overdraft and deciding to return to Britain after bailiffs closed in on his possessions in the island.

A proposed new career as a photographer never amounted to much, but Erskine had sat on the committees of a number of institutions, notably the De Havilland Aircraft Museum (BAe). He was also a trustee of the RAF Museum (Bomber Command) and of the David Tolkien Trust, Stoke Mandeville Hospital.

He was three times married, to Marie Elisabeth Allen in 1955 (dissolved 1964); to Maria Josephine Klupt, in 1974 (dissolved 1989): and, in 1993, to Debra, daughter of Gordon Knight. She survives him with the three daughters of his second marriage. There is no heir to the title.

JUAN CARLOS ONGANIA

General Juan Carlos *Ongania, President of* Argentina, 1966-70, died on June 8 aged 81. He was born on March 17, 1914.

HARD riding cavalry officer and polo player though he was, Juan Carlos Ongania was never really more than a token president of Argentina. He was brought out of retirement to be head of state by the leaders of the three armed forces after they had deposed his democratically elected predecessor, Arturo Illia.

But although Ongania tried to take a tough line with the opposition to his autocratic rule, particularly with students, and genuinely tried to do something to improve the economy, social unrest against his unpopular measures eventually forced the military to think again, and he was dispatched into retirement with as little ceremony as he had been plucked from it. He had never really managed to exert control over what had for many years been a virtually uncontrollable country and for the last year or so of his regime his Government was virtually sleepwalking to disaster.

His honorable, but simplistic cavalryman's precepts were simply not equal to coping with the miasma of Argentine politics, nor to understanding the rage of the substantial portions of the population who were indignant at the denial of their rights.

Of Basque stock, Juan Carlos Ongania had been raised on a small ranch in a corner of Buenos Aires province. Brought up entirely within the military ethos, he even fought a sabre duel in neighbouring Uruguay with a member of an Argentine aristocratic family whom he felt had insulted him. But he steered clear of politics and this preserved him during the difficult Perón period when many of his fellow officers were jailed. He likewise steered clear of politics under the regimes of Perón's successors and became commnder-in-chief of the Argentine Army in 1962.

A good soldier as well as being an imposing personality in the military context, he was noted during his period in command for putting an end to the endemic squabbles between the armed forces.

He retired in 1965 but had only a year of rural tranquillity before being summoned by the forces to the highest office of state. But the simplicity and directness of character which had served him well in inter-forces disputes was not equal to performing a similar feat with a disaffected civilian population, which had had a taste of liberal democracy under Arturo Illia and was not prepared to stomach another suppression of civil liberties without a fight.

Ongania cracked down on the press, was severe on modernism and criticism of the regime in the arts, and intolerant of student protest. Though he tried to encourage the business community and improve the economic situation, his tendency to see all Argentina's problems in terms of economics was, in the end, his undoing. The business community he was trying to help was not interested in placating liberal elements in society, yet Ongania ignored the liberals at his peril.

Another weakness in his position was that his short period in retirement had lost him his powerful position with the forces. He was their nominee, but in no sense at the apex of a junta. When his economics minister was forced to resign in 1969 the writing was on the wall for him. Further strikes and protests led to his own swift removal in 1970.

Thereafter he lived quietly in retirement.

PERSONAL COLUMN

LEGAL NOTICES

In the matter of Designplant Ltd (formerly Granada Computer Services (UK) Ltd)
and
In the matter of the Insolvency Act 1986

Notice is hereby given that the creditors of the above-named company, which is being voluntarily wound up, are required, on or before 21 July 1995, to send in their full forenames and surnames, their addresses and descriptions, full particulars of their debts or claims, and the names and addresses of their solicitors (if any), to the undersigned David John Milburn of KPMG Corporate Recovery, Festival Way, Stoke on Trent, Staffordshire ST1 5TA, Liquidator of the said company, and, if so required by notice in writing from the said Liquidator, are, personally or by their solicitors, to come in and prove their debts or claims at such time and place as shall be specified in such notice, or in default thereof they will be excluded from the benefit of any distribution made before such debts are proved.

N.B. This notice is purely formal to comply with the statutory regulations. All creditors have been or will be paid in full. The liquidation is for re-organisation purposes.

Date 5 June 1995
DJ Milburn
Liquidator
Witness to the signature of Mr DJ Milburn
Mr JP Bateman
Insolvency Practitioner

PUBLIC NOTICES

Notice of appointment of Administrative Receiver
Race Electronics Limited

Registered number: 1709989
Trading name(s): Race Electronics Limited. Nature of business: Printed Circuit Board Manufacturer. Trade classification: 11 Other Manufacturing. Date of appointment of administrative receiver(s) 5 June 1995. Name of person appointing the administrative receiver(s) Barclays Bank Plc. Names of administrative receivers Derek Anthony Howell Peter Ryan Cridland Denham. Office Holder No.(s) 786 and 658. Address: Haywood House Dumfries Place Cardiff CF1 4BA

PUBLIC NOTICES

FOX, JACOB FOX, LATE OF HERNE HILL, LONDON SE24 DIED at 8 Albrechtstrasse Bad Kreuznach, GERMANY on 14th March 1970 Estate approximately £11,000. Any enquiries contact RICHARD PREMSTON at Russell-Cooke Potter & Chapman, 2 Putney Hill, London SW15 6AB Telephone 0181 789 9111 Yours faithfully, RUSSELL-COOKE POTTER & CHAPMAN

TRUSTEE ACTS

NOTICE is hereby given pursuant to s27 of the TRUSTEE Act, 1925 that any person having a CLAIM against or an INTEREST in the ESTATE of any of the deceased person's whose names, addresses and descriptions are set out below is hereby required to send particulars in writing of his claim or interest to the person or persons mentioned in relation to the deceased person concerned before the date specified: after which date the estate of the deceased will be distributed by the personal representatives among the persons entitled thereto having regard only to the claims and interests of which they have had notice.

FEARN MICHAEL GIFFORD OF 113 MEAD WAY OLD COULSDON SURREY DIED 18TH FEBRUARY 1995 PARTICULARS TO ORMEROD WILKINSON MARSHALL SOLICITORS 1A KATHARINE STREET CROYDON CR0 1NX BEFORE 10TH AUGUST 1995.

MACRAE GEORGE BROTHERSON OF THE SHIELING UPPER GREEN ALPHAMSTONE BURES SUFFOLK CO8 5HF. DIED 6TH MARCH 1995. PARTICULARS TO MESSRS BIRD & BIRD SOLICITORS 90 FETTER LANE LONDON EC4A 1JP. BEFORE 10TH AUGUST 1995.

The Trustees of Christian Science Society, Hounslow. Trust Fund. Hereby give notice of a resolution under Section 2(4)(c) of the Charities Act 1993 modifying the purposes of the charity. May be obtained from Messrs Coole & Haddock (Ref JOL) 14 Carfax Horsham West Sussex. Representation must reach the charity commissioners of England and Wales at St Albans House 57/60 Haymarket London SW1Y 4QX. By 10/7/1995.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

I wish Kay and Frank a magical future and a special thanks to Kay for choosing the night of clubs, regards Howard.

PARENTS: Are your children bored during the Summer Holidays? Camp Beaumont - Day & Residential camps. Brochure 0171 724 2233.

PROFESSIONAL couple who for medical reasons cannot achieve a pregnancy, seek a kind compassionate lady (Asian also welcome) to act as an egg donor. If you are under 35 years, preferably with children of your own, please contact the London & Gynaecology centre. Tel: 0171 224 0707 - Quoting Ref. No. 6831.

WOULD Michael Patrick Parnell born on the 4th June 1960 in Whangarei, New Zealand or any person knowing his present whereabouts please communicate as soon as possible with Knight Coldicutt & Co. Solicitors. PO Box 25138, Papatoetoe, New Zealand.

YOUR WILL
If you are making your will please think of BLESMA. We care for all ex-service men and women who have lost limbs in the service of this country.
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The Chairman, British Limbless Ex-Service Men's Association, c/o Midland Bank plc, 60 West Smithfield, London EC1A.

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We honour those who gave their lives for our country. But what of those who shared the same horrors and survived... their minds shattered.
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Broadway House, The Broadway, Wimbledon SW19 1RL. Tel: 081-543 6333

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Reg. Charity No. 270288

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- The Gurkhas have faithfully served the British Crown since 1815, and in two World Wars – winning 13 Victoria Crosses for conspicuous bravery.
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- Please help with a donation now and a legacy later

THEY HAVE FOUGHT FOR BRITAIN SINCE 1815. NOW, HELP THEM TO FIGHT THE WAR OF THEIR LIVES
GURKHA WELFARE TRUST
The Gurkha Welfare Trust, Dept.TT, 3rd floor, 88 Baker Street, London W1M 2AX. Tel: 0171-615 4209. Registered Charity No.1034080.

ORCHESTRAL OCCASIONS

ON THIS DAY

June 10, 1944

Sir Henry Wood, who had conducted 49 consecutive Promenade concerts when this article appeared, died two months later. The centenary of the concerts has been spread over two years: 1994 marked the 100th season, and this year the centenary itself (1895-1995), a decision by the BBC which nobody is likely to begrudge.

Yesterday the London Symphony Orchestra celebrated the fortieth anniversary of its foundation; today Sir Henry Wood opens the fiftieth season of his Promenade Concerts. The two celebrations together attest the consolidation of a tradition of orchestral music in London. From London the influence of the two organizations had radiated through the country, that of the LSO by way of the steady work it has done at the great provincial festivals, that of the Proms by way of the wireless transmission which began in 1927 when the BBC took over responsibility for their financial stability.

The seal has now been set on that responsibility by the BBC's final acceptance of a trusteeship for the future of the concerts which Sir Henry Wood handed over to the Corporation on Monday of this week. The Henry Wood Promenade Concerts will be continued in any foreseeable future and will, if the jubilee fund which bears his name has the success it deserves, be housed one day in the not too distant future in the Henry Wood Concert Hall. When Sir Henry Wood celebrated his 75th birthday last March, his personal share in the splendid achievement of creating a musical institution of such value to the nation was rightly acclaimed, and now the Companionship of Honour has been conferred on him by the King.

The jubilee is also the moment to note the more impersonal causes of vitality in the institution of the Promenade Concerts. One is the consistency of the musical policy; another is the adaptability of its application, so that public taste has been caught, retained, and developed. The change as a result of fifty years' education can be gauged by the fact that, when the actual jubilee comes to be celebrated on August 10, the original programme of 1895 cannot be played to the 1944 audience, in the way the actual programme of the London Symphony Orchestra's first concert, conducted by Hans Richter in 1904, was reproduced last night under Sir Adrian Boult.

While the L.S.O., beginning as an experiment in orchestral self-government, has continued in the path it designed for itself, which differed from and indeed is complementary to that pursued by the Proms, the Proms have continuously evolved. They constitute one more instance of a British institution, initiated by the vision and enterprise of one or two men (the name of Robert Newman must not be forgotten), growing in strength and influence by an evolutionary process of gradual change, until the time arrives for it to pass into the control of some public body. Sir Henry Wood has given a birthday present to the nation, and the nation has shown and will continue to show its gratitude.

THE TIMES TODAY

NEWS

Teachers reject Left's strike call

■ The biggest teachers' union began to turn the tide against militants yesterday and decisively rejected a left-wing appeal for a one-day national strike over class sizes.

Members of the National Union of Teachers voted by more than four to one against the strike. The decision overturned a vote at the union's volatile Easter conference which was marred by the jostling of David Blunkett .... **Page 1**

'Untouchable' toddler to go home

■ Zara Albright, two-and-a-half, who has spent the first years of her life sealed in a sterile room because she was born with no natural defences against illness, was preparing to go home for the first time .... **Page 1**

Power price row

Prices of future privatisations could be jeopardised by the handling of the power flotation, the Stock Exchange said........ **Page 1**

Blair snubs unions

Tony Blair is willing to ride roughshod over trade union demands that a minimum wage should be fixed at a precise rate........ **Page 2**

Garden trick

A confidence trickster who chopped down every tree in a garden except the one which needed felling was jailed........ **Page 3**

Over the bridge . . .

Eleven children strolled into history by walking to the Scottish mainland across the £30 million bridge........ **Page 6**

Widows' anger

Widows of the anti-terrorism experts who died when a helicopter crashed accused the Government of dishonouring their husbands' names........ **Page 9**

Immigration plea

Britain's first Asian bishop urged the Government to promote immigration to remedy skill shortages and boost the economy..... **Page 11**

North sea battles

A conference charged with cleaning up the North Sea ended with a string of small wins for conservation and wildlife .... **Page 12**

Hong Kong court

China and Britain announced they had reached agreement to set up a supreme court for Hong Kong after the handover .... **Page 14**

Chirac summit

President Chirac dined with the 14 other leaders of the European Union to pave the way for a summit in Cannes at the end of this month .... **Page 15**

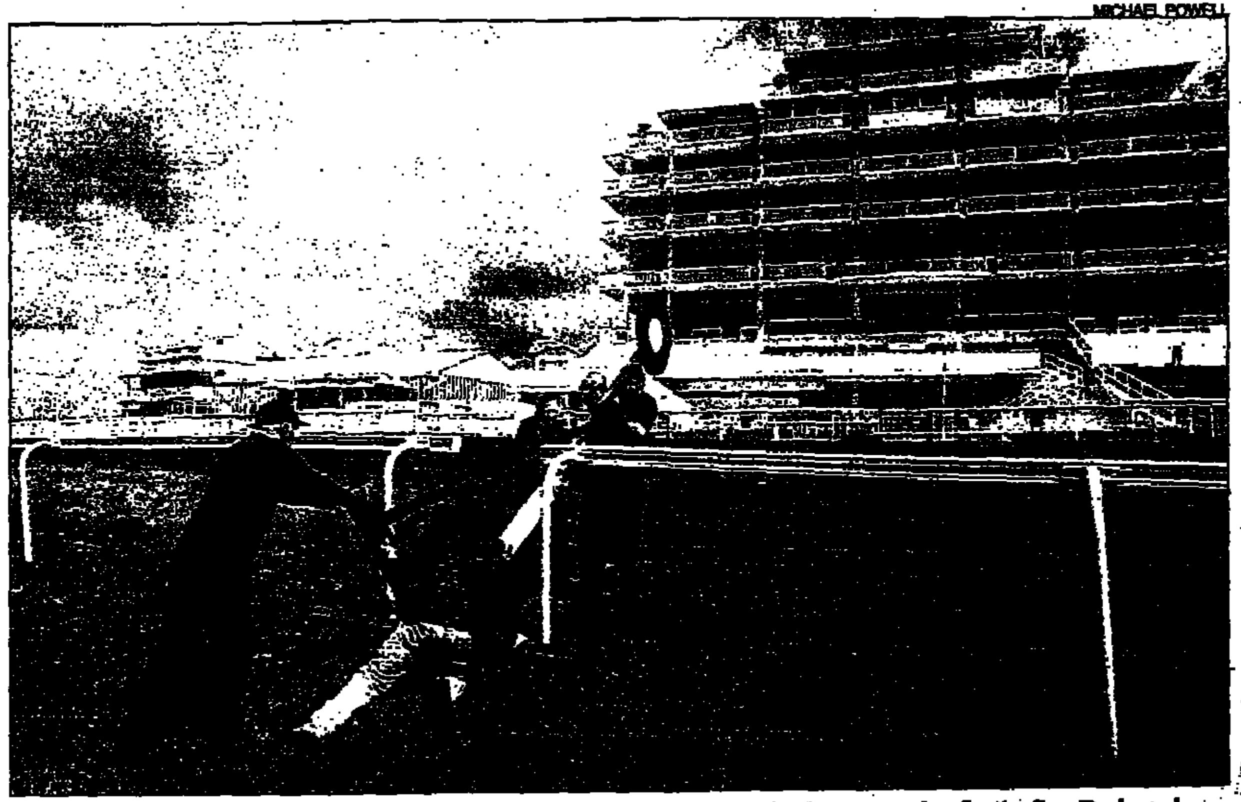
Welcome back

Scott O'Grady, the American pilot plucked from Bosnia after six days on the run, enjoyed a reunion with his squadron in Italy....... **Page 16**

Hyde Park Corner speech is too free

■ Police on duty at Speakers' Corner in Hyde Park — Britain's most famous platform for free speech — are to patrol with hidden body cameras and tape recorders in an attempt to curb mounting disruption and growing friction between rival groups of religious fundamentalists every Sunday .... **Page 1**

MICHAEL POWELL



The winning post is put up opposite the Queen's Stand at Epsom yesterday in preparation for the first Derby to be run on a Saturday since the Coronation. Pennekamp will start a short-priced favourite. Pages 1, 42

OPINION

North and dirty: The North Sea has been the nearest and largest source of food from the sea and its energy riches have kept the nation afloat. Its survival is vital ... **Page 19**

China's day in court: For China, this was always a test of who rules Hong Kong. With this decision, the sun set over British rule .... **Page 19**

Learning to forget: Sammy *the sea lion, suddenly deprived of the only occupation he was any good at,* feels middle-class employment insecurity .... **Page 19**

THE PAPERS

Washington is in search of a Bosnian policy that properly balances limited national interests with an acceptable risk — *New York Times*

COLUMNS

Simon Jenkins: Other coun*tries do not have piers: as if* we were straining to escape the prison of the shore and strike across the sea in search of new lands .... **Page 18**

Robert Skidelsky: Collectivism became unworkable because what was to be controlled had become invisible, disaggregated, or beyond governments' reach . **Page 18**

OBITUARIES

Brigadier Reginald Hudson, Woolwich garrison commander; ***Bettina Vernon***, dancer; **General Juan Carlos Ongania**, President of Argentina, 1966-70 .... **Page 21**

LETTERS

Sin and the Church; Test pitches; books........ **Page 19**

Pay: The Greenbury report *currently being compiled on* on excessive executive pay is unlikely to involve much of a change in the law ... **Page 23**

Barclays: The staff union has called a second one-day strike in an escalation of a dispute *over pay. Unions claim to* have disrupted half the *branches in the first* strike........ **Page 23**

Economy: The British trade gap with the rest of the world appears to be improving according to latest government figures........ **Page 23**

Markets: The FT-SE 100 fell 43.1 to 3337.7. Sterling's index fell from 84.5 to 84.1 after a rise from $1.5872 to $1.5970 but a fall from DM2.2543 to DM2.2342........ **Page 26**

Cricket: A batting collapse by England followed by indisciplined bowling left West Indies on top *after the second* day of the first Test ..**Page 44**

Rugby union: England have rediscovered their self-confidence .... **Page 39**

Tennis: Thomas Muster, who has won 34 consecutive matches on clay, will meet Michael Chang in the French Open final........ **Page 43**

Motor racing: Michael Schumacher clocked the fastest time in the first free practice session for the Canadian Grand Prix........ **Page 44**

If you want to shift your seats *as easily as you shift furniture*, enter the age of the *multi-purpose vehicle.*

MAGAZINE

Last gasp: *How America* is planning to stub out the smokers .... **Page 8**

Diary: Germaine Greer on a rape centre crisis........ **Page 3**

Men overboard: *Waterworld*, an ocean epic that could sink Kevin Costner .... **Page 18**

Treasure Island: Marcus Binney marvels at the splendours of the off-shore home of the Marquess of Bute**Page 29**

100 summer wines: Jane McQuitty begins a five-part series; Jonathan Meades and Frances Bissell on food and drink........ **Pages 43-52**

Fashion: Men without clothes........ **Page 36**

House style: Disposable designer furniture . **Page 41**

The Vulture: Picking over cultural bones ...**P—age 57**

WEEKEND

To Lord's with love: Tunku Varadarajan with a spectator's essential kit........ **Page 1**

Last word in taste? Richard Morrison on the prudish re*action to youth programmes* and music........ **Page 5**

Vile version: *Lament for an* ENO staging of Weill's Mahagonny opera ..... **Page 5**

Competition: A week's holiday hideaway for life**Page 10**

Sales from the bank: Gear up for the start of the coarse fishing season........ **Page 13**

Books: Marcel Berlins on Sarah Dunant; Libby Purves sails into crisis; poetic justice ..... **Pages 14, 15**

Travel: Madrid; Andalusia; Norway ..... **Pages 18-23**

vision

Love hurts: Douglas Hodge, a loser in love, in a *poignant* comedy, *Bliss* .... **Page 2**

Film choice: Pick of the week's movies........ **Page 4**

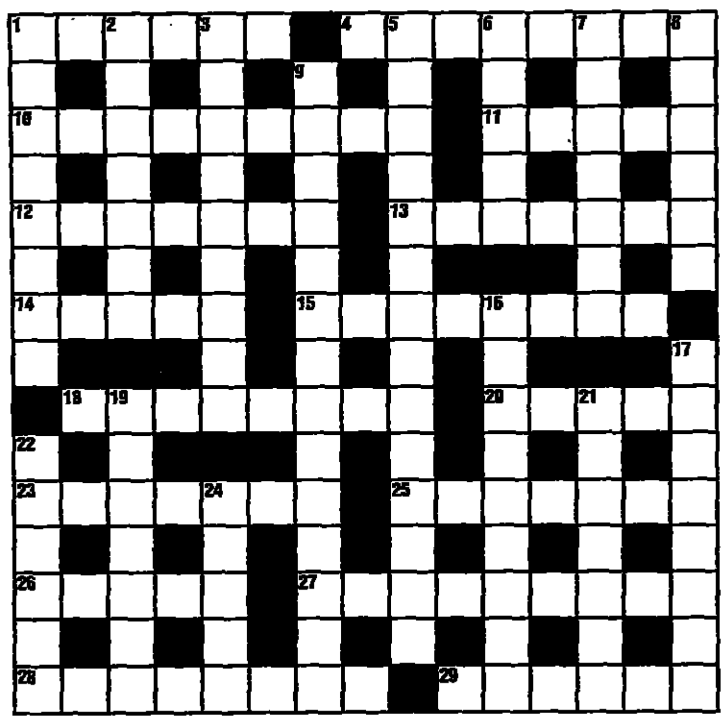
Whatdunnit?, Scientific sleuthing in Radio 4's *Medical Detectives* .... **Page 20**

THE TIMES CROSSWORD NO 19,878

A bottle of Knockando, a superb Speyside Single Malt Scotch whisky uniquely bottled only when at its peak of perfection rather than at a pre-determined age, together with a fine leather credit card wallet, will be given for the first five correct solutions opened next Thursday. Entries should be addressed to: The Times, Saturday Crossword Competition, PO Box 486, Virginia Street, London E1 9DD. The winners and solution will be published next Saturday.

Name/Address ....

....



ACROSS

1 Replace one weak link with another? Such waste! (6).
4 Produced originally in a hotel! In the Savoy (8).
10 Daring recitation of two poets (9).
11 Inflated stomach — I would apply a compress (5).
12 Shakespeare had the measure of Dickensian litigant (7).
13 The sort of family that could become critical? (7).
14 It's far, yet he heads off for mountain ridge (5).
15 Carer out at work helps run the union (8).
18 Comes first, able to make runs at speed (8).
20 Man seen at the back of a passage (5).
23 A little book with one's old qualification (7).
25 Stop snake heading for pitch (7).
26 Crack up, coming from Essex to London (5).
27 Maiden in the river about the end of summer (9).
28 Art gallery threw out a thousand items of historic interest (8).
29 Dull, but extremely effective (6).

DOWN

1 In a heap of paper, tramp hides bottle (8).
2 Spruce and not half trendy, wearing sack (3-4).
3 Farmhand, a crock, but able to hold his drink (9).
5 He was not highly rated, in the main (8,6).
6 But most Ancient Greek students get a grounding in this (5).
7 Largely restrained artistic medium (7).
8 Put up with being last (6).
9 So tedious, this work of Mephistopheles? (4-10).
16 The widow simulated grief for anyone listening (9).
17 People correspond, but not physically (8).
19 Little Kanga having a rest perhaps with Chanticleer (7).
21 Did not punish captured regiment that fought half-heartedly (7).
22 Talk quietly in, say, Ripon church (6).
24 Small detached place that brings in rent? (5).

Solution to Puzzle No 19,872

B	O	U	N	D	■	T	O	R	C	H	S	O	N	G
E	■	N	■	R	■	H	■	U	■	O	■	B	■	R
D	E	F	E	A	T	I	S	M	■	B	I	J	O	U
S	■	I	■	C	■	R	■	A	■	B	■	E	■	N
P	A	T	I	O	■	S	A	N	D	Y	A	C	H	T
R	■	■	■	N	■	T	■	I	■	■	■	T	■	■
E	D	A	C	I	T	Y	■	A	T	H	E	I	S	T
A	■	R	■	A	■	■	■	■	■	A	■	O	■	I
D	E	M	O	N	I	C	■	S	Y	N	O	N	Y	M
■	■	I	■	■	■	H	■	I	■	D	■	■	■	E
M	U	S	I	C	H	A	L	L	■	S	L	O	O	P
E	■	T	■	A	■	M	■	V	■	T	■	R	■	I
T	A	I	N	T	■	O	P	E	R	A	T	I	V	E
R	■	C	■	C	■	I	■	R	■	N	■	O	■	C
O	V	E	R	H	A	S	T	Y	■	D	U	N	C	E

Solution to Puzzle No 19,877

F	E	M	O	R	A	L	■	B	L	U	S	H	E	D
R	■	A	■	A	■	A	■	L	■	S	■	A	■	I
A	S	S	E	T	■	N	E	A	T	H	O	U	S	E
N	■	S	■	H	■	D	■	N	■	E	■	L	■	H
T	R	A	D	E	M	A	R	K	■	R	U	M	B	A
I	■	C	■	■	■	G	■	■	■	E	■	■	■	R
C	O	R	D	S	■	E	M	B	A	T	T	L	E	D
■	■	E	■	O	■	N	■	E	■	T	■	U	■	■
A	S	S	A	U	L	T	E	D	■	E	X	C	E	L
L	■	■	■	A	■	■	■	S	■	■	■	R	■	E
L	E	H	A	R	■	E	X	P	A	T	I	A	T	E
O	■	Y	■	E	■	N	■	R	■	H	■	T	■	W
W	H	E	E	L	R	A	C	E	■	E	R	I	C	A
E	■	N	■	E	■	C	■	A	■	T	■	V	■	R
D	R	A	U	G	H	T	■	D	E	A	D	E	N	D

LAST WEEK'S WINNERS: *J W P Jaffe, East Horsley, Surrey; B Harris, Theddlethorpe-all-Saints, Lincolnshire; D S Peacock, Staverton, Gloucester; A L James, Winchester; D S Harriss, Bexhill on Sea, East Sussex.*

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TIMES WEATHERCALL

For the latest region by region forecast, 24 hours a day, dial 0891 500 followed by the code.

Greater London	701
Kent,Surrey,Sussex	702
Dorset,Hants & IOW	703
Devon & Cornwall	704
Wilts,Gloucs,Avon,Soms	705
Berks,Bucks,Oxon	706
Beds,Herts & Essex	707
Norfolk,Suffolk,Cambs	708
West Mid & Sth Glam & Gwent	709
Shrops,Herefds & Worcs	710
Central Midlands	711
East Midlands	712
Lincs & Humberside	713
Dyfed & Powys	714
Gwynedd & Clwyd	715
N W England	716
W & S Yorks & Dales	717
N E England	718
Cumbria & Lake District	719
S W Scotland	720
W Central Scotland	721
Edin S Fife/Lothian & Borders	722
E Central Scotland	723
Grampian & E Highlands	724
N W Scotland	725
Caithness,Orkney & Shetland	726
N Ireland	727

Weathercall is charged at 39p per minute (cheap rate) and 49p per minute at all other times.

AA ROADWATCH

For the latest AA traffic/roadworks information, 24 hours a day, dial 0336 401 followed by the code.

London & SE traffic, roadworks	
Area within M25	731
Essex/Herts/Beds/Bucks/Berks/Oxon	732
Kent/Surrey/Sussex/Hants	734
M25 London Orbital only	736
National traffic and roadworks	
National motorways	737
West Country	738
Wales	739
Midlands	740
East Anglia	741
North-west England	742
North-east England	743
Scotland	744
Northern Ireland	745

AA Roadwatch is charged at 39p per minute (cheap rate) and 49p per minute all other times.

HOURS OF DARKNESS

TODAY

Sun rises: 4.44 am	Sun sets: 9.16 pm
Moon sets 2.51 am	Moon rises 5.58 pm

Full moon June 13

London 9.16 pm to 4.44 am
Bristol 9.26 pm to 4.54 am
Edinburgh 9.57 pm to 4.28 am
Manchester 9.36 pm to 4.41 am
Penzance 9.30 pm to 5.13 am

TOMORROW

Sun rises: 4.44 am	Sun sets: 9.17 pm
Moon sets 3.29 am	Moon rises 7.14 pm

Full moon June 13

London 9.17 pm to 4.44 am
Bristol 9.26 pm to 4.54 am
Edinburgh 9.57 pm to 4.27 am
Manchester 9.37 pm to 4.40 am
Penzance 9.31 pm to 5.12 am

HIGH TIDES

TODAY	AM	HT	PM	HT
London Bridge	11.06	6.74	11.24	6.82
Aberdeen	10.34	3.89	11.11	3.94
Avonmouth	4.00	11.67	4.34	12.00
Belfast	7.54	3.34	8.32	3.25
Cardiff	3.59	10.61	4.37	10.84
Devonport	2.32	4.81	3.10	4.91
Dover	7.59	6.01	8.26	6.28
Dublin	8.49	3.83	9.13	3.88
Falmouth	2.04	4.66	2.35	4.84
Glasgow	9.34	4.21	10.50	4.14
Harwich	8.51	3.72	9.14	3.71
Holyhead	7.23	5.13	7.58	5.23
Hull	3.18	6.57	3.36	6.83
Ilfracombe	2.51	8.09	3.26	8.32
King's Lynn	3.33	5.76	3.54	6.11
Leith	11.44	5.15	—	—
Liverpool	8.17	8.61	8.48	8.90
Lowestoft	6.53	2.27	6.46	2.35
Margate	9.17	4.38	9.34	4.48
Milford Haven	3.05	6.10	3.39	6.24
Newquay	2.15	6.00	2.45	6.10
Oban	2.51	3.47	3.34	3.47
Penzance	1.38	4.80	2.11	4.89
Portland	3.28	1.67	4.22	1.81
Portsmouth	8.20	4.24	8.53	4.57
Shoreham	8.20	5.47	8.48	5.83
Southampton	7.45	4.05	8.21	4.35
Swansea	3.04	8.45	3.38	8.85
Tees	0.33	4.83	0.59	4.97
W'lton-on-Nze	8.54	3.98	9.16	3.92

Crown copyright reserved. All tide times are GMT

HIGHEST & LOWEST

Thursday: highest day temp: Bournemouth, Dorset, 19C (66F); lowest day max: Aviemore, Highland, 8C (46F); highest rainfall: Doncaster, South Yorkshire, 0.33in; highest sunshine: Teignmouth, Devon, 15.2hr.

FORECAST

☐ **General:** eastern England will start rather cloudy with patchy rain or drizzle near coasts. It will become brighter during the day. Wales and the rest of England will be mostly dry and bright with sunny intervals. Scotland and N Ireland will be rather cloudy with patchy rain and drizzle at times.

☐ **London, Central S England, E Midlands, W Midlands, Channel Isles, SW England, S Wales, Central N:** mostly dry and bright with sunny intervals. Wind northwest, light to moderate. Max 18C (64F).

☐ **SE England, E Anglia, E England:** cloudy start with patchy rain or drizzle near coasts. Becoming brighter during the day with sunshine and showers. Wind northwest, moderate. Max 15C (59F).

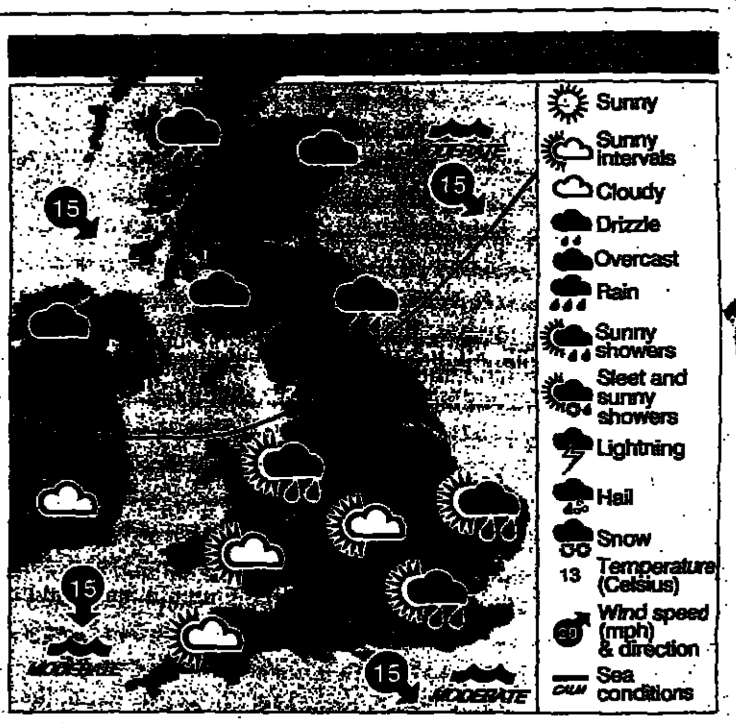
☐ **N Wales, NW England, Lake District, Isle of Man, NE England:** mostly dry and bright with some sunshine but becoming more cloudy later. Wind northwest, light to moderate. Max 17C (63F).

☐ **Borders, Edinburgh & Dundee, Aberdeen, SW Scotland, Glasgow, Central Highlands:** becoming increasingly cloudy with patchy rain or drizzle at times. Wind northwest, moderate. Max 16C (61F).

☐ **Moray Firth, NE Scotland, Argyll, NW Scotland, Orkney, Shetland, N Ireland:** cloudy with patchy rain or drizzle. Wind northwest moderate or fresh. Max 16C (61F).

☐ **Outlook:** mostly dry and bright with some sunshine. Scattered showers, especially in the southeast.

☐ **Pollen forecast:** Scotland L; N England L; N Ireland L; Midlands M; E Anglia L; Wales M; South East M; South West M; London L.
H=high, L=low M=moderate.



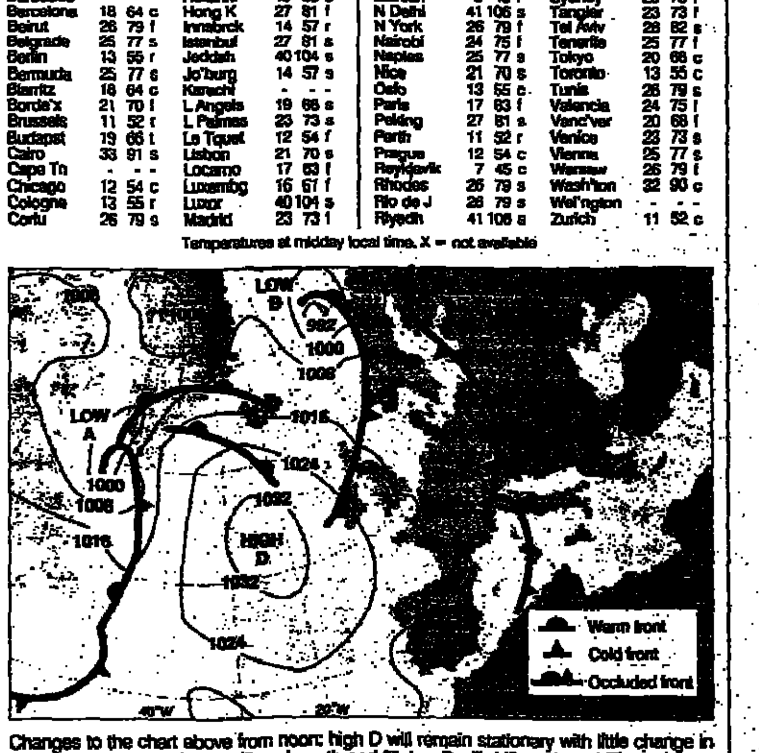
24 hrs to 5 pm: b=bright; c=cloud; d=drizzle; ds=dust storm; du=dull; f=fair; fg=fog; g=gale; h=hail; r=rain; sh=shower; sl=sleet; sn=snow; s=sun; t=thunder

	Sun hrs	Rain in	Max C	Max F			Sun hrs	Rain in	Max C	Max F	
Aberdeen	0.4	0.24	9	48	r	Leuchars	1.9	-	14	57	c
Anglesey	9.2	0.03	14	57	sh	Littlehmptn	13.1	-	17	63	s
Aspatria	7.7	-	14	57	b	London	8.9	-	15	59	b
Aviemore	-	0.22	8	46	r	Lowestoft	5.9	0.06	13	55	sh
Belfast	3.3	-	11	52	c	Manchester	7.4	-	14	57	b
Birmingham	11.1	-	14	57	s	Margate	9.5	0.04	15	59	s
Bognor R	14.8	-	18	64	s	Minehead	13.6	-	15	59	s
Bournem'th	12.7	-	19	66	s	Morecambe	6.7	-	14	57	b
Bristol	12.4	-	17	63	s	Newcastle	3.2	0.03	13	55	c
Buxton	8.7	-	12	54	b	Newquay	11.3	-	13	55	s
Cardiff	11.9	-	16	61	s	Norwich	4.7	0.06	13	55	sh
Clacton	3.3	-	14	57	c	Oxford	12.5	-	16	61	s
Colwyn Bay	10.4	-	13	55	b	Penzance	11.6	-	16	61	s
Cromer	4.6	0.02	12	54	c	Plymouth	10.7	-	16	61	s
Doncaster	5.0	0.33	15	59	sh	Poole	11.7	-	18	64	s
Dunbar	0.2	0.04	11	52	c	Prestatyn	X	-	13	55	b
Eastbourne	11.0	0.03	17	63	s	Ross-o-wye	13.5	0.02	17	63	sh
Edinburgh	2.5	0.01	14	57	c	Ryde	14.1	-	18	64	s
Eskdalemuir	5.1	0.01	12	54	sh	Salcombe	13.1	-	18	64	s
Exmouth	13.4	-	16	61	s	Sandown	12.4	-	17	63	s
Falmouth	9.5	-	15	59	b	Saunton Snd	11.5	-	16	61	s
Fishguard	8.2	-	11	52	b	Scarboro'	4.6	0.20	12	54	c
Folkestone	12.0	0.03	17	63	s	Shanklin	12.0	-	17	63	s
Glasgow	6.8	-	16	61	b	Shrewsbury	9.5	0.01	14	57	sh
Guernsey	13.9	-	17	63	s	Skegness	8.0	0.08	14	57	c
Hastings	9.1	-	17	63	s	Southport	9.7	-	15	59	s
Hayling I	14.8	-	18	64	s	Southsea	14.2	-	18	64	s
Herne Bay	9.8	-	16	61	s	Stornoway	1.5	0.03	11	52	d
Hove	10.8	-	18	64	b	Teignmouth	15.2	-	17	63	s
Hunstanton	3.5	0.10	13	55	c	Tenby	9.7	-	14	57	b
Ilfracombe	X					Tiree	5.2	-	12	54	c
Isle of Man	10.1	-	13	55	b	Torquay	15.1	-	18	64	s
Jersey	10.9	-	17	63	s	Tynemouth	-	0.05	12	54	c
Kinloss	X					Ventnor	10.8	-	18	64	s
Leeds	5.0	0.19	15	59	sh	Weymouth	13.1	-	18	64	s
Lerwick	1.2	0.07	9	48	r						

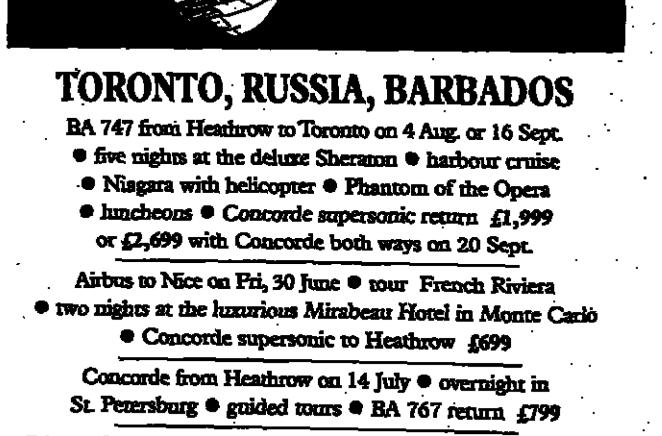
These are Thursday's figures

Ajaccio	22	72	s	C'phagn	14	57	f	Majorca	20	68	f	Rome	24	75	s
Akrotiri	26	79	s	Dublin	15	59	c	Malaga	28	82	s	S Fr'isco	16	61	s
Alex'dria	27	81	s	Dubrovnik	22	72	s	Malta	26	79	s	S Paulo	21	70	c
Algiers	24	75	s	Faro	23	73	s	Melb'rne	16	61	r	Salzburg	13	55	c
Amst'dm	11	52	r	Florence	23	73	s	Mexico C	27	81	s	Santiago	12	54	f
Athens	27	81	s	Frankfurt	16	61	f	Miami	33	91	f	Seoul	28	82	f
B Aires	15	59	s	Funchal	21	70	c	Milan	23	73	f	Sing'por	33	91	f
Bahrain	36	97	s	Geneva	18	64	s	Montreal	16	61	s	St'kholm	19	66	s
Bangkok	32	90	f	Gibraltar	26	79	f	Moscow	26	79	f	Strasb'rg	16	61	f
Barbados	-	-	-	Helsinki	19	66	s	Munich	9	48	r	Sydney	23	73	f
Barcelona	18	64	c	Hong K	27	81	f	N Delhi	41	106	s	Tangier	23	73	f
Beirut	26	79	f	Innsbrck	14	57	r	N York	26	79	f	Tel Aviv	28	82	s
Belgrade	25	77	s	Istanbul	27	81	s	Nairobi	24	75	f	Tenerife	25	77	f
Berlin	13	55	r	Jeddah	40	104	s	Naples	25	77	s	Tokyo	20	68	c
Bermuda	25	77	s	Jo'burg	14	57	s	Nice	21	70	s	Toronto	13	55	c
Biarritz	18	64	c	Karachi	-	-	-	Oslo	13	55	c	Tunis	26	79	s
Borde'x	21	70	f	L Angels	19	66	s	Paris	17	63	f	Valencia	24	75	f
Brussels	11	52	r	L Palmas	23	73	s	Peking	27	81	s	Vanc'ver	20	68	f
Budapest	19	66	t	Le Touqt	12	54	f	Perth	11	52	r	Venice	23	73	s
Cairo	33	91	s	Lisbon	21	70	s	Prague	12	54	c	Vienna	25	77	s
Cape Tn	-	-	-	Locarno	17	63	f	Reykjavik	7	45	c	Warsaw	26	79	f
Chicago	12	54	c	Luxembg	16	61	f	Rhodes	26	79	s	Wash'ton	32	90	c
Cologne	13	55	r	Luxor	40	104	s	Rio de J	26	79	s	Wel'ngton	-	-	-
Corfu	26	79	s	Madrid	23	73	f	Riyadh	41	106	s	Zurich	11	52	c

Temperatures at midday local time. X = not available



Changes to the chart above from noon: high D will remain stationary with little change in pressure; low A will push north and fill; low B will drift north and fill



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● Niagara with helicopter ● Phantom of the Opera
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● two nights at the *luxurious Mirabeau Hotel in Monte Carlo*
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Concorde from Heathrow on 14 July ● overnight in
St. Petersburg ● guided tours ● BA 767 return £799

BA 767 from Heathrow on 7 July ● three nights in *Moscow* and
three in St. Petersburg ● overnight train, first class
● guided city tours ● Concorde supersonic return £1,299

Concorde between Heathrow and Barbados ● seven nights at
Discovery Bay on 23, 30 July or 19, 26 Aug. £1,999

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● SAS return to Heathrow £999
or £1,999 with two additional nights and Concorde

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Southampton ● Orient-Express to Victoria £1,099

Orient-Express to Victoria on 30 Aug. ● seven night QE2 cruise
Around Britain ● Concorde from Paris £1,499

Concorde to Paris on 6 Sept. ● one night QE2 cruise to
Southampton ● Orient-Express to Victoria £999

Orient-Express to Southampton on 15 Oct. ● four night QE2 cruise
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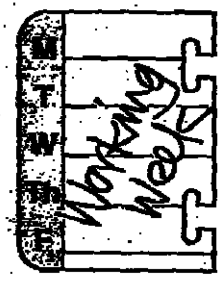
ABTA

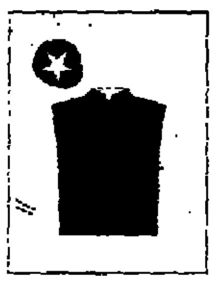
MELVYN MARCKUS 24

Our City Editor ponders bids for building societies



WORKING WEEK 25

In New York with the first lady of cable



SPORT 37-44

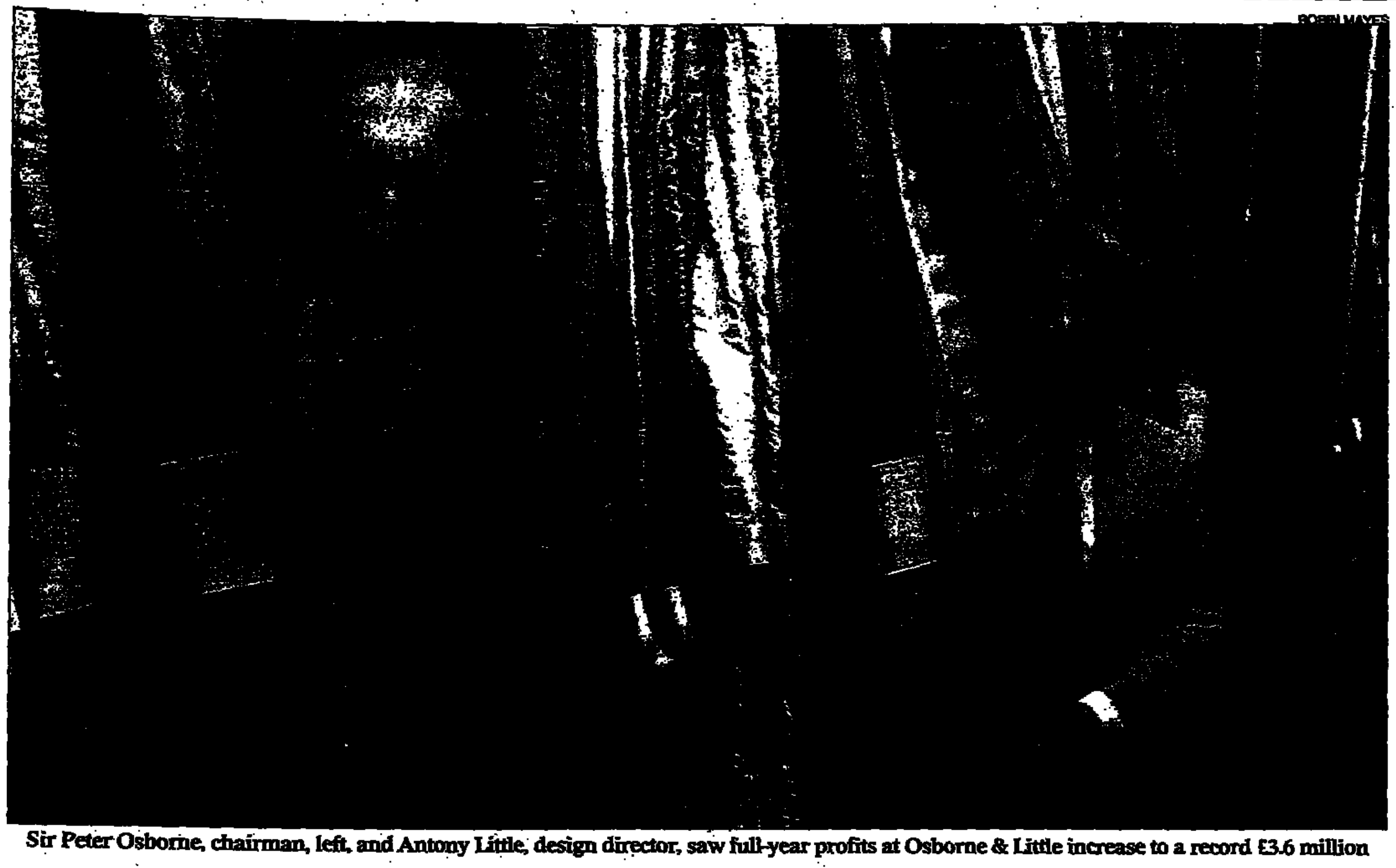
Follow the runners and riders in the Epsom Derby

THE HIDDEN ASSETS OF LLOYD'S
Page 25

THE TIMES

BUSINESS EDITOR Lindsay Cook

SATURDAY JUNE 10 1995



ROBIN MAYES

Sir Peter Osborne, chairman, left, and Antony Little, design director, saw full-year profits at Osborne & Little increase to a record £3.6 million

Material gain for O&L

SIR Peter Osborne, chairman at Osborne & Little, unveiled a 40 per cent leap in pre-tax profits to a record £3.6 million in the year to March 31. The upmarket wallpaper and fabrics group raised the final dividend from 4p to 6p and revealed a special dividend of 4p, making a total of 13.5p, up 108 per cent. Earnings per share rose from 26.4p to 37p. The shares rose sharply before profit taking left them unchanged at 465p.

BUSINESS TODAY

FT-SE 100	3337.7	(-43.1)
Yield	4.15%	
FT-SE A All share	1641.32	(-17.16)
Nikkei	15044.18	(-398.12)
New York:		
Dow Jones	4427.79	(-30.78)*
S&P Composite	528.31	(-4.04)*
Federal Funds	6%*	(6¹⁄₁₆%)
Long Bond	112¹¹⁄₃₂*	(113⁹⁄₃₂)
Yield	6.67%*	(6.60%)
3-mth Interbank	6¹³⁄₃₂%	(6⁹⁄₁₆%)
Liffe long gilt future (Jun)	105⁷⁄₃₂	(107⁹⁄₃₂)
New York:		
$	1.5960*	(1.5945)
London:		
$	1.5943	(1.5923)
DM	2.2364	(2.2530)
FFr	7.8555	(7.9360)
SFr	1.8470	(1.8590)
Yen	134.39	(135.17)
£ Index	84.1	(84.5)
London:		
DM	1.4031*	(1.4082)
FFr	4.9260*	(4.9515)
SFr	1.1585*	(1.1615)
Yen	84.38*	(84.65)
$ Index	89.3	(89.0)
Tokyo close Yen 84.70		
Brent 15-day (Aug)	$17.35	($17.55)
London close	$387.85	($385.35)

* denotes midday trading price

Greenbury ignores excessive pay levels

BY PHILIP BASSETT, INDUSTRIAL EDITOR

THE Greenbury inquiry into executive pay will make only one recommendation requiring a change in the law — and that will be on a relatively minor point on boardroom earnings.

Though the Greenbury committee, in its report to be published at the end of next month, will put forward a *range of proposals on bonuses*, share options and pay disclosure, its findings are unlikely to resolve the current concerns over directors' pay since they will completely avoid *dealing with the actual* pay levels, which form a substantial part of public anger over top pay.

But ministers are likely to be most embarrassed by the fact that the inquiry, headed by Sir Richard Greenbury, Marks and Spencer chairman, will propose little which will require legislative change.

While John Major was careful when he said in March that he was *prepared to legislate* if necessary on the basis of Greenbury's recommendations, ministers and the inquiry acknowledge privately that there is now a public expectation — *partly driven by the* Prime Minister's description of excessive boardroom pay rises as "distasteful" — that the Government will bring in new laws to prevent boardroom pay abuse.

In fact, the *single move the* Greenbury committee is expected to recommend that will need legislation is the scrapping of the requirement for firms to declare the number of *directors salaries in* £5,000 pay bands.

Under the Companies Act 1985, companies where executive remuneration exceeds £60,000 are required to declare the *emoluments* of the chairman and highest-paid director, and to list the number of directors in each £5,000 pay band; starting from zero.

In its report, which was delivered earlier this week to *the Department of* Trade and Industry and to the CBI, which set it up at the Prime Minister's urging, the Greenbury inquiry is to recommend full disclosure in an easily *comprehensible form of* all the earnings for all the directors of a company.

The draft report suggests this can best be done by changes to the Stock Exchange's *Yellow Book* which *stipulates the information* that companies must disclose.

But because this takes disclosure much further than the current Companies Act, the inquiry *is* to recommend that the banding requirement should be dropped in law.

Labour leaders will be angry that what they will regard as a relatively minor alteration in company *law is* the *only significant proposal* for legislative change to come from the inquiry. They will accuse ministers of misleading the public in their pledge to *legislate.*

But the Greenbury committee is now convinced that its draft proposals, which will be revised before a final meeting on July 4, will not be sufficient *to resolve the row over* boardroom pay. The committee is anxious to return the problem to Downing Street.

Accordingly, the inquiry report makes no recommenda*tion on the actual pay levels of* top company bosses.

But the inquiry has also recognised that it cannot stay silent on executive pay at the privatised utilities, which *lies* at the heart of the boardroom pay row. Members are getting ready to mount some criticism of utility leaders' pay when the report is published.

Trade deficit of £520m the lowest for four years

BY JANET BUSH
ECONOMICS CORRESPONDENT

RECORD exports brought Britain's trade deficit with the rest of the world down to its lowest level for four years in March *in figures* which were described as spectacularly good by the City.

The March deficit totalled £520 million, the smallest monthly *shortfall* since *June* 1991, according to the Central Statistical Office, and half of what the City had been anticipating.

But the surprisingly good picture was *also underlined* by very large *upward revisions* for exports in January and February, backing up the message from recent Confederation of British *Industry* surveys which had *been giving positive* signals.

As a result, February's deficit, originally estimated at £1.164 million, was revised *down to* £694 *million, mainly* because of higher exports to the European Union. January's original shortfall of £1.107 million was revised down to £775 million.

This run of strong exporting figures brought the deficit in the first quarter down to £1.989 billion from £3 billion in the final quarter of last year.

The latest quarter's figure was *the lowest for any three-month* period since the first quarter of 1987. In the first quarter, exports rose 5 per cent while imports rose only 2 per cent.

Taking out *oil* and erratics, the deficit in March was £1.266 billion, compared with £1.370 billion in February. The CSO said that the lowest deficit in March was because *of higher exports of oil and* precious stones and lower imports of aircraft. However, it said that it now estimates that Britain's overall trade deficit is on an improving *trend.*

☐ US *producer* prices were unexpectedly flat in May after a 0.5 per cent increase in April, partly because of sharp falls in food and energy prices. After *stripping out* these often erratic components, core prices were up 0.3 per cent, about what the markets had been expecting.

Share prices suffered widespread losses with government securities plunging more than £2 as worries about mounting inflationary pressures came back to haunt investors. The FT-SE 100 index, which closed on Thursday at its highest level this year, tumbled 43.1 to 3,337.7. Any hopes of a rally were *finally dashed by the start of* trading on Wall Street where the Dow Jones average suffered an early 40-point fall.

Barclays staff call one-day strike for July 4

BY CHRISTINE BUCKLEY

STAFF at *Barclays* Bank are *to stage a second strike over* pay after talks between unions and the bank earlier this week proved fruitless.

Unifi, the banking union, yesterday called a one-day *strike on July 4 in the dispute* over the imposition of a 2.75 per cent pay rise. Last month, a one-day strike forced at least 230 branches of the bank to close. Unifi's strike call is backed by Bifu, *the* banking and insurance union.

Iain MacLean, Unifi's assistant general secretary, said: "We aim to demonstrate to Barclays that we are deadly *serious about this* and that we *are not going to be intimidated.*" He said that Unifi, which until the strike on May 30 had not taken industrial action in over 80 years at the bank, was determined *to* fight the imposed award, *the fourth* consecutive sub-inflation *rise.* The unions are seeking a rise of 5 per cent or £600, whichever is the greater.

Barclays yesterday said that it was "saddened and disappointed" *that a second strike* was planned and accused the union of lacking the support of its members to conduct a further stoppage.

The unions said they were *willing to go to arbitration but* accused Barclays *of intransigence.* Barclays said that although it agreed to meet the unions on Monday to "discuss the events of the past few weeks" it was not prepared to *reopen the subject of pay.*

Unifi is also accusing Barclays of intimidation tactics after letters were sent to employees who went on strike warning them that they had *acted in breach of contract* and that such a move could lead to disciplinary action including dismissal.

Mr MacLean said that the union had a mandate for a *series of strikes with no limit on the number of days.*

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Anne Ashworth on the Skipton Building Society

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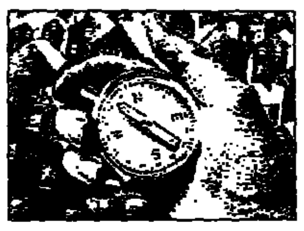
The cost of tax breaks for borrowers



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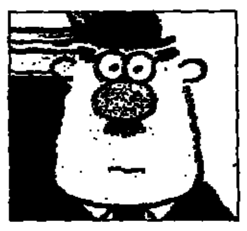
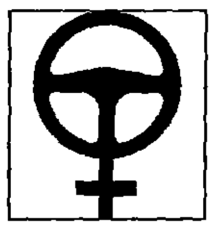


INSURANCE



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Cheaper policies for women drivers

Nynex shares open at a premium

BY ERIC REGULY

NYNEX CableComms, which floated yesterday on the London and Nasdaq markets, reversed a trend when it became the first cable company to see *its* shares climb *above their issue price.*

The offering of 305 million shares, which raised £383 million, was launched at 137p and rose to 141p before settling *back to close at* 137½p.

The shares of the six other cable companies that have floated since last year all fell below their issue price. But Nynex, which is the second *largest cable company, had to* price its shares at the lower end of their expected range of 131p to 151p to ensure their placement.

One of the company's underwriters said: "We decided to adopt a reasonably cautious and conservative approach to the valuation."

Nynex shares were sold at a *hefty 30 per cent discount* to the Thursday closing price of the shares of TeleWest Communications, the leading player in the industry. The *discount was based on calculations* that *measure potential* earnings from the number of homes in each company's cable franchises.

Nynex will use the flotation *funds to expand its network.* The company has 2.7 million homes in its franchises, but its cables pass by less than a third of them.

It may also use the money to *help pay for the acquisition of* a neighboring franchise. Eugene Connell, Nynex's chief executive, said consolidation will reduce the number of cable companies from 16 to four or five over the next *few* years.

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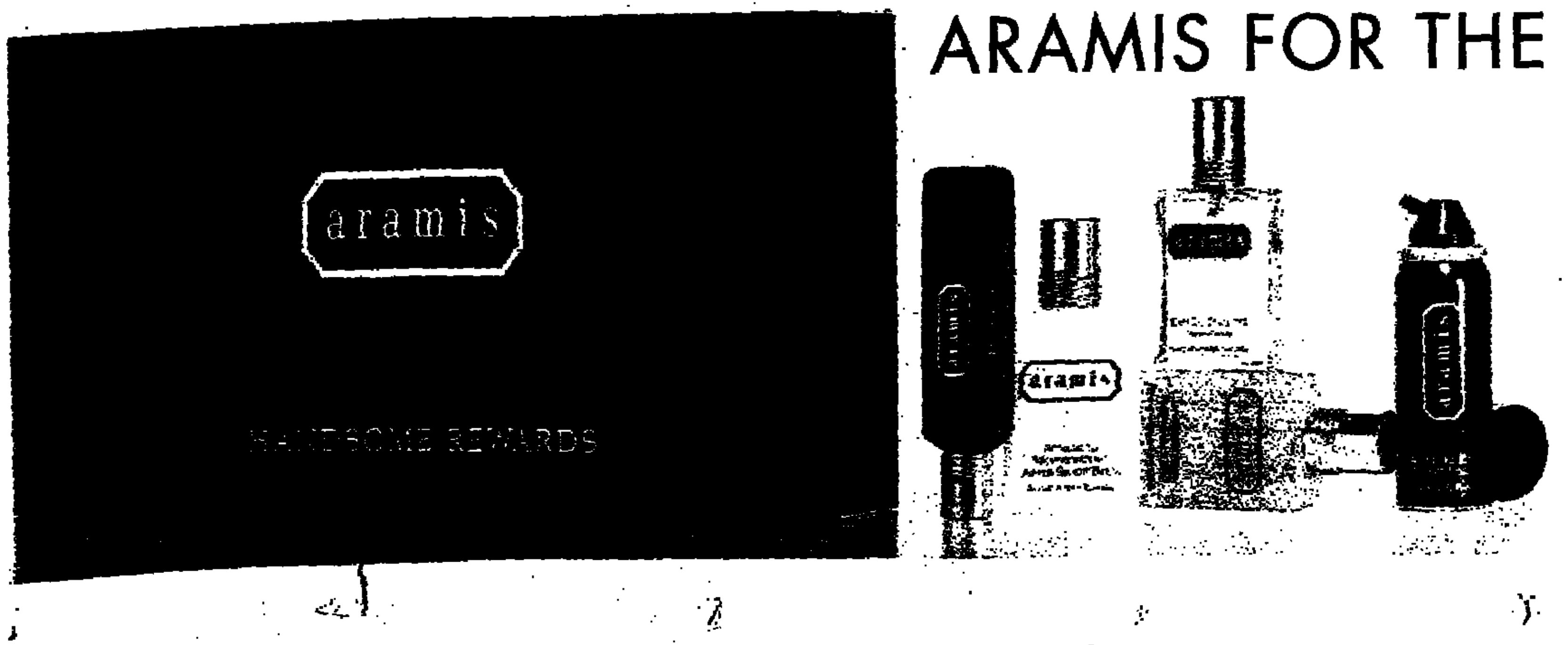
New City post for Wakeham

BY GEORGE SIVELL

LORD WAKEHAM, the former Cabinet Minister, yesterday picked up his second non-executive directorship within two days. He *adds* the non-executive chairmanship of Kalon, the paints group, to the non-executive chairmanship of Vosper Thornycroft, the shipyard group, announced *on Thursday after Cabinet* Office approval.

He is expected to be paid about £35,000 a year at Vosper, much the same as the present part-time chairman. Fees *for non-executive directors* in the City can range from £5,000 to £70,000.

Lord Wakeham ran into flak earlier this year after joing the board of *N M Rothschild*, the City merchant bank which advised the Government on the coal privatisation around the time that he was Energy Secretary.



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The Busy Bee understanding process

MELVYN MARCKUS

I am not an expert on the building society *movement* — far from it. But I am fascinated by the movements within the movement. People, as you may have noticed, don't buy houses anymore. They become members of building societies instead. House price speculation has proved a dangerous pastime but takeover speculation, within the movement, is all the rage. Takeover bids in the corporate sector are one thing, takeover bids in the building society arena quite another. Sometimes the twain meet. Such is the case with *Abbey National's £1 billion* designs on the National & Provincial. I have been carrying out a little research. This is what I have found out.

Some time ago, in April, the Abbey National (which used to be a building society but is now a bank) let it be known that it wanted to acquire the National & *Provincial (which is a "mutual"* with a busy bee emblem). The message from Abbey was that such a combination would make *"sound strategic sense". Subject* to "further information being made available" the Abbey expected to offer *members* of N&P a "substantial premium" over net asset value.

This is the Abbey's fourth attempt to buy the National & Provincial: a sort of Abbey habit. Transparency may be in vogue but not in the building society movement. Peter Birch, chief executive of the Abbey, has been criticised for making Abbey's intentions known. His most vociferous critic is John *Wriglesworth, a former analyst* at UBS, who now communicates from within the Bradford & Bingley, spearheaded by Geoffrey Lister, a fervent supporter of mutual ownership. When the Abbey announced its intentions, Wriglesworth opined that such action was "stupid, aggressive and naive". In his words: "All *they have done is put people's* backs up. They will never buy a building society."

Abbey is the only N&P suitor *to disclose its interest but it is* most certainly not a lone suitor. Lloyds Bank, not content with paying £1.8 billion for the Cheltenham & Gloucester, has joined the N&P auction. Some say that Lloyds' interest reflects spoiling tactics: aimed at forcing the likes of Abbey to pay dearly. Sir Brian Pitman, chief executive of Lloyds, basks in the secrecy associated with the building society movement. It is not known what exchanges, if any, took place between Pitman and Lord Tugendhat, chairman of *the Abbey, at last week's International* Monetary Conference for bankers in Seattle. Suffice to say that Pitman, who lost out to Sir William Purves, chairman of HSBC Holdings, in the race to rescue Midland Bank, has not clarified the situation.

Ironically, Midland's name has also been linked to National *& Provincial. Perhaps Lloyds is* attempting, once again, to spoil a Midland play. Or could it be the other way round? TSB, normally perceived as prey rather than a predator, is another outsider. The perception of TSB is the way it is because the City has never quite recovered from the company's acquisition of Hill Samuel. Nationwide, which reported a 32 per cent rise in 1994-95 pre-tax *profits to £345.4 million this* week, is reputed to be showing considerable interest in N&P.

Certain observers are concerned *about this. Such concern reflects* the belief within the movement that Nationwide's merger with Anglia was ill-implemented. Thankfully, Nationwide's loan loss provisions fell by 45 per cent from £282 million to £154 million. Also knocking at N&P's door is the Alliance & Leicester, presumably because it wants to offer the British public something even more exciting than Girobank.

What is so special about the *National & Provincial? I put this* question to Alastair Lyons, its chief executive. He told me that the principal attraction of N&P was the "strength of our relationships with 3 million customers". He stressed that N&P had achieved a reputation for "fairness, good advice and good value".

This is no mean achievement for any bank or building society, particularly in view of the controversial reign of Mr Lyons' predecessor, David O'Brien, who was ousted from the Busy Bee board last September. It was O'Brien *who* introduced a management philosophy known as "The Understanding Process". Under this system N&P staff are reputed to have been given unusual titles such as "director of customer engagement", "process facilitator" and "manager of the understanding process". Staff meetings were referred to as "understanding events". It is said, by some, that such practices led to open management which *permitted even the lowliest bee* to know what was going on in the hive. Unfortunately, this did not include O'Brien who was clearly caught unawares when the rug — along with a £300,000-plus remuneration package — was pulled. As Lord Shuttleworth remarked at the time: "We felt David's particular strength was *the creative side but felt that* Alastair Lyons' strengths were more suitable for the society these days. After I had spoken to Mr O'Brien he resigned. You could say that was by mutual agreement or whatever."

What is clear is that O'Brien's indirect influence *on the building* society movement has been immeasurable. O'Brien, it may be recalled, was long ago set to take over as chief executive of the merged Leeds Permanent/N&P *— a deal that foundered* when the Leeds suffered a change of heart and chose instead to cosy up to *the* Halifax — a duo that are poised to become a bank.

Lyons refuses to identify suitors but promises clarification soon. This will be welcomed, not least by members of N&P's much publicised "Mutual Programme". It would *appear that* the banks are intent on buying what they have lost: customer *relationships. Merrill Lynch,* incidentally, recently predicted that mortgage margins would *halve* over the next two years and most societies "will cease to exist in any meaningful way". Shame, because the public abhor the banks yet retain a soft spot for the building societies.

Customers of Welsh Water to share £40m

By Christine Buckley

THE biggest payback package to water customers yet announced and a massive 33.5 per cent rise in dividend payments yesterday surprised the City when Welsh Water unveiled its results.

The company which had been expected to make a large rebate, revealed plans for a £40 million payback to customers over four years, a leap in full-year dividend to 33.9p *(25.4p) and a large capital* restructuring programme.

The customers, who are in an area of the country where water is a particularly strong political issue, will get, for four years, an annual rebate on *bills of £9 if they receive both* water and sewerage services and £4.50 if they receive just one. Rebates will not start until next year, however. The company said it judged administration costs — at £500,000 — too great to justify immediate payment.

Welsh also said that it would spend £38 *million* over four years on environmental improvements.

In its overhaul of its share structure, the company plans to issue nine preference shares for each holding of ten existing ordinary shares. It also plans to consolidate its equity structure by giving shareholders *five new ordinary shares for* each holding of six existing ordinary shares.

The preference shares will provide a cheaper form of finance as they carry a fixed coupon and do not lock the *company into increased* dividend payments, and the consolidation reduces the equity base. Together, the two strengthen dividend cover and function in a similar fashion to a share buyback but without risking the political sensitivity of such a move. Angela Whelan, of Credit Lyonnais, declared the plans "very clever financial engineering".

The huge leap in dividend payment this year, which includes a special £9 million allocation, will not be repeated, although Welsh will not put a target on future levels. Iain Evans, the chairman, said: "We are not going to make predictions except to say that it will be competitive."

Analysts forecast the increase will be about 12 per *cent next year.*

Welsh's pre-tax profits fell from £144 million to £120 million after exceptional restructuring charges. These included severance costs and a £11.5 million provision which *was ploughed into Acer, the* company's engineering consultancy division.

Acer, which has been hard hit by changes in government road policy and cancellation of contracts, made a £4.8 million *loss last year. The diversified* interests of water companies have often proved to be a drain on resources but some analysts feel Acer is a particular thorn in the side of Welsh. Mr Evans believes the company has turned the corner: "There was a problem but that is being fixed," he said.

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Evans: "competitive"

BR's mail trains up for sale

By Jonathan Prynn
Transport Correspondent

BRITISH Rail's fleet of mail trains, one of the most evocative surviving *symbols of the golden* age of rail, has been put up for sale to the private sector.

Immortalised in the W.H. Auden poem, *The Night Mail*, the 60 trains in the Rail Express *Systems group, which* employs 750, ply the network overnight, distributing and sorting letters on behalf of the Royal Mail.

Almost a quarter of all Royal Mail letters are still carried by train, but there has been a huge loss of business as mail distribution has transferred increasingly to the roads.

There is thought to be considerable private sector interest in the business, principally from distribution and logistics groups such as NFC. The sale is due to be completed by the end of the year.

John Watts, the Transport Minister, said: "Rail Express Systems has a number of strengths. It *represents a long-established* train operating business, running non-passenger services over major areas of the British railway network and has in place contracted future income from its principal customer."

The issue of the information memorandum for the mail *business follows* the sale of BR's six heavy maintenance depots, *which were sold for* £30 million earlier this week.

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HOWARD BARLOW

Despite fewer agents Peter Johnson denied interest in hampers was waning

Park Food hampered in spite of profit rise

By Christine Buckley

ONLY 198 shopping days to Christmas and the hamper industry is getting twitchy, judging by yesterday's reaction to Park Food Group's results.

The company, whose core business is Christmas hampers sold through savings plans, disappointed the market which had hoped Santa 1994 would have brought a little more. Although pre-tax profits climbed 15.9 per cent to £13.7 million, analysts had expected about £14.5 million. Park Food's shares fell 19p on the day to 91p.

The City also heard alarm bells heralding the ghost of Christmas yet to come when Park Food said that its number of agents — who collect payment through the year for hampers — had fallen.

Peter Johnson, the chairman, said that profitability had suffered last year from a £1 million downturn in the wholesale hamper business which is mainly conducted through dairy deliveries. The decline in doorstep milk deliveries has dealt a blow to other services offered by dairy companies and sales of hampers to those companies slumped from £1.7 million to £700,000. *The dividend was lifted 20 per* cent to 2.88p, due on October 3

Mr Johnson denied people were losing interest in traditional hampers. "People still want them and they are interested in buying through the savings *plans* which is the important thing," he said.

Park Food is also about to diversify into the low-calorie chip, which can be fried in a minute. But its plans have been delayed after the construction company building the production plant went into liquidation.

[redacted]

GEC quick to post £835m VSEL offer

THE General Electric Company has wasted no time in its bid to win control of VSEL, the Barrow warship and submarine builder. *GEC yesterday posted its offer document,* one day after it launched its knockout £835 million cash offer. GEC's cash bid, of £21.50 a share, topped the existing rival all-paper offer from British Aerospace, currently worth £17.39 per VSEL share, by £175 million.

Most analysts appear to think that BAe has little chance of succeeding in the battle unless it makes a substantially higher offer. Some *analysts think BAe could lift its* bid for VSEL again, possibly up to £23 a share without dilution, though most admit GEC seems set to win. Meanwhile, costs are mounting and BAe has yet to publish its offer document, so any move would have to come within a couple of weeks, though little is likely before the Paris air show finishes next week. VSEL shares added 16p to £21.56, while BAe was unchanged *at 527p. GEC eased 2p to 320p.*

Security Services buy

SECURITY SERVICES, the 51 per cent-quoted subsidiary of Securicor, is buying ASD, a German guarding and alarms company for £17.8 million. The company *is paying an initial* £11.1 million, with an additional £6.7 million due in October. The additional payment will be reduced if ASD fails to make a £1.1 million profit in the six months to June 30. The company had a £49 million turnover last year. Security Services said the acquisition would give it a platform in the German security market and would fit with the Securicor guarding and alarms businesses based in Dusseldorf and Leipzig.

LUI second payout due

MORE than 80,000 people owed money by five insolvent insurance subsidiaries of London United Investments, the collapsed property and investment company, are still waiting to receive a second payout from administrators. Chris Hughes, at *Cork Gully, told creditors that* a *further $140 million would* be distributed later this year. This follows the distribution of $563 million last September. The average payment to creditors will be about seven cents in the dollar. The losses made by the companies — Kings-croft, Walbrook, El Paso, Lime Street and Mutual Reinsurance — could reach $10.8 billion.

St James's profits fall

ST JAMES'S PLACE CAPITAL, the investment holding company jointly chaired by Lord Rothschild, suffered a 3 per cent fall in net assets per share to 83.7p for the year to March 31. Pre-tax profits dropped 76 per cent to £18.7 million. The previous year had included large profits on portfolio investments. Despite the fall, the group is holding its dividend at 3p per share. J Rothschild Assurance, the group's *main life assurance subsidiary, increased* new premium income by 30 per cent to £428 million and its funds under management rose above £1 billion.

Protean to buy Walther

PROTEAN, the water purification and scientific instrument group, is paying £12.9 million for the Walther group, makers of water purifiers in Germany. The company is funding it with a rights issue to raise £14.6 *million. It is issuing one* share for every four at 197p. Walther made a profit of DM5 million last year on sales of DM22.9 million. Meanwhile Protean announced a rise in pre-tax profits of 40 per cent in the year to March 31, on the back of a 29 per cent increase in sales to £54.4 million. The group is paying a final dividend of 4.25p, lifting its dividend for the year to 5.6p. **Tempus, page 26**

EBRD aid for Russia

THE European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD) has agreed to grant Russia ecu 76 million (£62 million) for urgent, short-term safety upgrades on three *nuclear power plants.* The money will come from the Nuclear Safety Fund, which the EBRD administers. The upgrading work will be at plants in Leningrad, Kola and Novovoronezh. Viktor Mikhailov, the Russian Minister for Nuclear Energy, in London to sign the EBRD agreement, said Russia would go ahead with plans to build a nuclear plant in Iran, in spite of US opposition.

IP seeks dismissal of Holvis directors

By Neil Bennett

THE battle for Holvis, the Swiss paper distribution and textile group, turned vicious *yesterday when International* Paper, one of the bidders, called for a special meeting to dismiss the Holvis board.

IP, one of America's largest paper groups is taking legal action against Holvis on Monday to try to block the rival takeover bid by BBA, the British engineering group. BBA has signed a lock-up agreement with Holvis which effectively prevents higher offers from other bidders. IP claimed yesterday *that* the agreement was illegal.

IP holds 25 per cent of Holvis's shares and has used the stake to call for a special meeting at which shareholders would be asked to vote on three motions. IP wants to sack all Holvis directors in*stantly and replace them with* five of its own candidates. IP is also demanding that Holvis hands shareholders information on why it signed the agreement. IP also proposes barring Holvis from selling either of its two main divisions. The agreement states that Holvis must sell Fiberweb, its non-woven textiles division, to BBA if it accepts a higher offer. Fiberweb is the main business wanted by IP.

IP will present its case at the Basle civil court on Monday, hoping that the court will grant an injunction to allow time for a special meeting.

NUM postpones strike at RJB pits

By Martin Waller

THE threatened strike at RJB Mining was put on ice last night when the National Union of Mineworkers pledged to delay its industrial action over pay for three days.

The union, which had appealed after an earlier defeat in the High Court, told the Court of Appeal that it had not had time to prepare its case. As a result the NUM gave an undertaking not to strike until next Friday, by which time the appeal will have been heard.

RJB went to court yesterday for an injunction, which was granted by Lord Justice McKinnon, preventing the NUM from taking strike action. The company, which took over the bulk of British Coal in December for £815 million, argued that the authority of the ballot to hold a strike runs out at midnight on Monday, the day before the industrial action was due to start. A strike would therefore not be allowed under the Government's trade union legislation, which imposes a four-week limit during which industrial action must start.

The NUM has been pushing for a strike on the basis that RJB had called for a three-year pay freeze. The company denied any such freeze, and has also challenged the validity of the union ballot, which it says was not limited to RJB staff, although this point was *not considered by the court.*

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Hong Kong's change of fortune?

By Colin Narbrough
World Trade Correspondent

HONG KONG, one of Asia's "tiger" economies, has been given the thumbs down as a place to do business by *Fortune* magazine which has had a sudden change of mind about the crown colony's prospects.

Six months ago, the influential New York publication described Hong Kong, due to be handed back to the Chinese in July 1997, as second only to Singapore among world business centres, ahead of London and New York. In next Monday's edition, it says Hong Kong will become a "backwater" after the handback.

Corruption and political sleaze will dictate the way Hong Kong is run, rather than the British rule of law: media *freedom will come under threat and non-*Chinese companies will face discrimination, the magazine claims.

The Hong Kong Government Office in London was quick to point out, however, that the *Fortune* view was taken before Thursday's Sino-British agreement to set up a Hong Kong's court of final appeal for the post-1997 era, completing the legal framework that should boost business confidence.

Chris Patten, the Governor of Hong Kong, yesterday expressed concern about *the US magazine's* pessimism, *said* he considered it "greatly exaggerated". A speech he gave on Thursday indicated that he sees no cause for anxiety.

He pointed out that Hong Kong now represents 26 per cent of China's gross *domestic product, up from 18 per cent* three years ago. Since 1992, the number of companies with their regional headquarters in Hong Kong had risen from 588 to 714 and nearly a thousand more foreign companies had set up shop.

Some 10,000 more Americans had arrived, a jump of 40 per cent, an increase more than matched by the influx of Britons, Canadians and Japanese. Clearly, no pre-1997 exodus.

Peking may have designated Shanghai as China's financial centre, but Chinese *state-owned* companies have invested heavily in Hong Kong and are a big presence on the territory's stock exchange. Damage to Hong Kong would also hurt corporate China.

[redacted]

	Bank Buys	Bank Sells
Australia $	2.31	2.14
Austria Sch	16.82	15.32
Belgium Fr	49.18	45.88
Canada $	2.295	2.135
Cyprus Cyp£	0.750	0.695
Denmark Kr	9.38	8.58
Finland Mkk	7.45	6.80
France Fr	8.31	7.66
Germany Dm	2.40	2.19
Greece Dr	377.00	352.00
Hong Kong $	12.97	11.97
Ireland Pt	1.03	0.95
Israel	5.2655	4.5155
Italy Lira	2715.00	2580.00
Japan Yen	149.50	133.50
Malta	0.601	0.546
Netherlds Gld	2.665	2.438
Norway Kr	10.69	9.79
Portugal Esc	247.50	229.00
S Africa Rd	[illegible]	5.43
Spain Pta	[illegible]	188.50
Sweden Kr	12.11	11.31
Switzerland Fr	[illegible]	1.81
Turkey Lira	[illegible]	66449.0
USA $	1.681	1.561

Rates for small denomination bank notes only as supplied by Barclays Bank PLC. Different rates apply to travellers' cheques. Rates as at close of trading yesterday.

THE SUNDAY TIMES
We all gave funds to the Tory party under Mrs Thatcher because our views were sought and listened to, Lord King told Jeremy Hanley, the Conservative chairman, on his departure from British Airways. No-one listens these days. It s about time the Tory party took the people who pay for it seriously; added King. Now many other industrialists and financiers have also given up on John Major.
Big Business Blues — in The Sunday Times tomorrow

A WORKING WEEK FOR: SALLY DAVIS

On the road with the first lady of cable

Nynex CableComms' flotation has meant a detour off the superhighway and on to a route running from Zurich to California. **Eric Reguly** reports

IT IS Tuesday and Sally Davis is in New York for the second time in two weeks. In the previous eight days, she and Nynex's top executives have conducted hit-and-run presentations for the initial public offering of Nynex CableComms in London, Geneva, Zurich, New York and across America, including Kansas, Missouri, Wisconsin, California and Massachusetts. Mrs Davis is executive director strategic planning, business development and regulation at Nynex.

Somehow, she found time last weekend to fly back to London and visit her husband, Mark, and their 15-month-old daughter, Kate, but a bout of food poisoning ruined her few hours of pleasure. In New York, she was still feeling sick; dry toast and camomile tea was all she could handle for breakfast in the sumptuous dining room of the St Regis Hotel.

In mid-bite, she was whisked away by Nicholas Mearing-Smith, chief financial officer, for meetings on Wall Street. At noon, she was due to arrive at the Waldorf Astoria for the "big one" — a presentation in the Starlight Roof hall to 115 potential investors, including Mario Gabelli, of Gabelli & Co, who manages $9 billion of funds. If this group proved rebellious, Nynex's flotation on the Nasdaq and London exchanges could flop. This particular presentation would be left to Mr Mearing-Smith and Eugene Connell, the chief executive, a natural salesman who could sell ice cream to an Eskimo. Mrs Davis would work the audience — "schmoozing" in the argot of Manhattan — to spread her conviction that Nynex was worth buying in spite of the widespread belief that the British cable sector had exaggerated its fortunes; the Anglo-American flotations of two rival operators, TeleWest Communications and General Cable, had been sorry investments.

Mrs Davis managed to stand out in the crowd despite her conservative black suit. She was one of the few women there and her three inch heels pushed her up to 5ft 10ins, making her as tall as most of the men. Mario Gabelli, for one, was impressed by the Nynex presentation. "All their stock will get sold," he predicted, "It's just a question now of what price." Yesterday, Nynex sold 305 million shares at 137p apiece, raising £383 million. Nynex did not raise as much as it had expected a few months ago, but there were some who thought it would not fly at all in the wake of the disappointing TeleWest and General flotations.

Mrs Davis admits she felt intimidated by the prospect of a two-week roadshow across Europe and America, promoting the public offering of Nynex CableComms, Britain's second largest cable operator. For all her experience in the business world, Mrs Davis had never been on one before. She had never shied away from a challenge or a fight in her various careers, even if it meant losing her job over it, but had never had to confront legions of sceptical analysts and fund managers. "I was apprehensive when I set out," she said. "I thought I'd find myself in front of all these sharp brains, asking tough questions."

To her surprise, it was not that difficult. Mrs Davis, 41, who is the top ranking female executive in Britain's fastest-growing industry, said she never once found herself backed into a corner. "I actually quite enjoyed the whole thing," she said.

She is back in London now, no doubt thinking about how to put the flotation money to good use. The decisions of "the first lady of cable", as she has become known in the industry, will help to shape Nynex in the multimedia world. She sees the day when a single pipe will deliver telephone, video, data and interactive services into the home.

Mrs Davis is as much respected as liked within the company. She is known as a workaholic who demands exacting performances from her employees and stands by her decisions. You will never find her gossiping. "Some people feel intimidated by the fact that I am a woman," she said, noting that female executives are relatively scarce in Britain compared with America.

> ❛ People are in awe of her. If she believes in something, she's like a terrier ❜

Allen Saunders, executive director of corporate communications, said: "People here are somewhat in awe of her. If she believes in something, she's like a terrier; she just won't let go." They are all the more impressed because she has absolutely no business training. Born in Southampton, she seems to have inherited her professional drive and sense of adventure from her father, the late Philip Peberdy, an explorer who conducted surveys of native populations in British Guyana and elsewhere in South America for the British Government. "He's got a species of bat named after him somewhere," said Mrs Davis.

As a teenager, she became interested in the stage and directed and produced plays during her years at University College London while reading English literature. Upon graduation in 1974, she was at a loose end. "Career advice then was absolutely primitive. I had no idea what to do, so I went travelling." She and five friends bought a 1953 ex-Army ambulance and thundered around North Africa for nine months. When she returned, she fell into journalism, amazed that she could receive a cheque for asking the right questions and scribbling down the answers. Her career as an editor of speciality magazines such as *Hi-Fi Choice* and *Video & Film International* sparked her interest in the technology of communications and the possibilities of what has become known as the "wired society".

She left journalism and became a communications consultant. In 1983, she joined the then fledgeling Mercury Communications as employee number 106 and went on to examine and develop businesses ranging from video conferencing to telex services. Five years later, she left in a huff because she thought Mercury was heading in the wrong direction. Indeed, Mercury unveiled a radical restructuring late last year.

She landed at Cable London, where she became managing director. "Cable struck me as the future. I believed in the convergence of multimedia," she said. Less than three years later, she found herself out of a job because one of the company's shareholders was disappointed with the cable penetration rates. "I got fired and it was devastating," she said.

So she formed a consultancy, Davis Associates, which caught the attention of the American and Canadian cable companies that arrived in the early 1990s with the intention of spending £10 billion over the next decade to build Britain's cable franchises. Among other things, she negotiated the landmark regulatory agreement that allowed the cable operators to connect their telephony systems, the fastest-growing part of their business, to BT's network.

Nynex snapped her up in 1993, when she was five months pregnant. The company, owned by Nynex Corporation, the main telephone company in New York state and New England, pays her more than £100,000 a year and pretty much gives her free rein to plot the company's role on the information superhighway.

With a young child and a 60-hour-plus working week, Mrs Davis does not have a lot of time to put her feet up. Because she is a successful woman executive, she has become something of a celebrity on the industrial speaking circuit. Next week, she will give a speech about the future of the cable industry to a group called Women in Cable UK.

She plays golf once in a while, holds dinner parties at her house in Wimbledon and enjoys expensive restaurants such as Chez Nico and the Savoy Grill. But mostly she loves to work. "I like rolling up my sleeves and making decisions," she said. "There is no greater satisfaction than building a business."

MALCOLM CLARKE

We'll take Manhattan: Sally Davis prepares to join her colleagues on the Nynex roadshow, courting investors for the company's New York flotation

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[redacted]

How the history of Lloyd's was traced back to Adam

An upwardly mobile **Colin Narbrough** finds 18th century beauty in a 1980s icon

The troubles that have beset the Lloyd's of London insurance market in recent years have given David Rowland, the chairman, scant opportunity to show off some of the lesser-known delights of his post-modern City premises in Lime Street.

The architectural masterpiece of Richard Rogers, built in 1986, has had praise heaped upon it from around the world. But given the market's multibillion-pound losses in recent years the vast atrium has understandably been likened by commentators to a bottomless pit.

The Lutine bell, housed in an ornate rostrum on the atrium floor, also evokes thoughts of gloom and doom. It was salvaged from the wreck of the *HMS Lutine*, the loss of which in 1799 may have cost underwriters more than £1 million.

Yet, pleasant surprises are to be found. After ascending to the eleventh floor in a see-through lift, entering the Adam Room is a stunning experience. From the late-20th century, you step straight into the 1760s.

The magnificent room, designed by Robert Adam, the Scottish architect, was not part of the original Lloyd's, which celebrated its tercentenary in 1988, but was designed and built as the dining room of Bowood House, Wiltshire, for the first Earl of Shelburne.

Today, the room, which can be hired by underwriters for anything from a cocktail party to a six-course banquet, has a 36ft George III mahogany table as its centrepiece. The chandeliers come from White Lodge in Richmond Park and were once owned by the Queen Mother.

The marble fireplace, from the orginal Adam room, was sculpted by Thomas Carter. The early 18th century bracket clock on the mantelpiece is a Joseph Williamson. Naval paintings adorn the walls, but the choice has clearly avoided anything that might suggest an insurance loss.

So what is an elegant early piece of Adam doing in so elevated a situation? The answer is that Lloyd's and Adam go back a long way. It appears that the architect was commissioned to produce a design for the "New Lloyd's Coffee House" at Pope's Head Alley in 1769.

Under the leadership of John Julius Angerstein, Lloyd's left the coffee house in 1774 and leased more businesslike premises in the Royal Exchange at Cornhill.

Adam was persuaded by Sir George Colbrook, a Lombard Street banker, to take an interest in Lloyd's. Plans were produced for alterations to both premises. For some reason, the architect's work was never executed. Records from 1774 show, however, that Lloyd's paid Adam £150 for his services. The drawings survive.

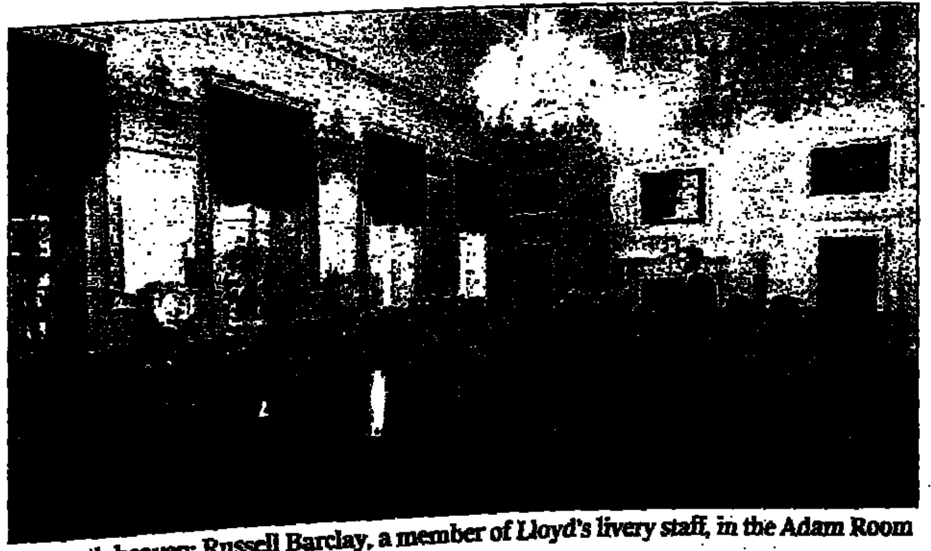
But the link with Adam was not forgotten. When Lloyd's put up its then new building in Lime Street in the late 1950s, Terence Heysham, the architect, had the idea of including the Adam room from Bowood House, which was being largely demolished at the time. The room was duly acquired by Lloyd's at auction and shipped off to Lime Street under the supervision of George Jackson & Sons, the firm that had installed it at Bowood.

The dimensions of the 1950s building sadly proved too small for the plasterwork and ceiling to be included when the room was reassembled. So the Adam plasterwork was stored in a vestibule.

Only when the Rogers edifice opened in 1986 was it possible for the Adam Room to be put back together in its glorious entirety. The space between storeys was still too tight, so it now rises through two floors.

Adam would doubtless be pleased to known that even as Lloyd's very existence might be under threat, his *oeuvre* of two centuries ago remains in prime condition.

MICHAEL POWELL



Eleventh heaven: Russell Barclay, a member of Lloyd's livery staff, in the Adam Room

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STOCK MARKET

MICHAEL CLARK

Shares and bonds come down with a bump

SHARE prices and government bonds came down to earth with a bump as the long-awaited correction finally materialised.

Gilts suffered losses stretching to *more than £2 in places*, while the equity market saw more than £8 billion wiped from share values as worries about growing inflationary pressures came back to haunt investors.

The FT-SE 100 index drifted steadily lower thoughout the day in thin trading. Any attempt at a late rally was finally killed off *by an opening* fall of 40 points in the Dow *Jones Average on Wall Street.*

This followed publication of *the latest US producer prices*, showing them at their highest level *for more than two years*. As a result, the index ended *the session 43.1 down at 3,337.7* with less than 600 million *shares traded.*

Investors in London *shrugged off the latest economic* news from America and continued to concentrate on growing inflationary pressures *as highlighted by Thursday's* CBI trends survey. The fear is this could lead to further interest rate rises this summer.

Many brokers *had* been anticipating a correction during the past few days, but the speed with which it was completed surprised even them. They said last night that further falls might be in store on Monday after investors have had time to ponder this week's economic news.

All eyes remained focused on **Zeneca** after Thursday's speculative flurry that saw the price climb 75p in a fast market as talk of a bid from Roche, of Switzerland, gathered pace. The price held up reasonably well yesterday although some profit-taking was inevitable. It finished the session 29p lower at £10.39 on lower turnover of 3.1 million shares.

If there is a bidder out there, *it was refusing to break cover.* But as brokers pointed out, *whatever the outcome*, Zeneca shares have enjoyed a spectacular *re-rating, which must be* good news for shareholders.

First-time trading in shares of **Nynex Cable Communications** was subdued after the price was fixed at 137p. The shares ended the session at 137½p as a total of 25.5 million changed hands.

Kleinwort Benson stood out with a rise of 22p to 688p as speculation about a bid for the company was revived. By the close of business less than 1 *million shares had changed.*

Once again there is talk of *an imminent bid from one of* the big German banks, *Dresdner or Deutsche Bank.* A figure of 850p a share *continues to be bandied* around, which would value *the company at £1.14 billion.*

Royal Insurance, which *celebrates its 150th anniversary this month*, fell 13p to 316p, stretching the loss on the week to 27p. The weakness has been prompted by the decision of Goldman Sachs, the US securities house, to remove the shares from its list of top 200 recommendations. Not the best birthday present Royal may have wished for.

Tate & Lyle was a weak market, falling 9p to 443p amid claims that there is a *surplus of sugar on world* markets. Brokers say sugar crops have exceeded even the *most optimistic forecasts.* There was also talk yesterday *that James Capel, the broker*, had turned cautious of the *shares.*

VSEL jumped 16p to £21.56 as **GEC** *surprised everyone* and published its offer docu*ment just 24 hours after raising* its cash offer for the company to £21.50. *Speculators* are now waiting to see if **British Aerospace**, unchanged at 527p, will increase its all-share offer worth £17.39. Most brokers privately take the view that GEC's offer will prove to be a knockout blow. GEC was 2p easier at 320p.

Confirmation that margins remain under pressure left **Tesco** 2½p cheaper at 297p. Sir Ian MacLaurin, chairman, told shareholders at the annual meeting that same-store sales were continuing to grow at more than 7 per cent in the current year, but added that gross margins remained lower than for the same period last year.

Hard on the heels of Mon*day's full-year figures came* news from **BAA Group**, the *airport operator, that passen*ger traffic continues to grow. The number of passengers passing through its eight regional airports last month grew 7.1 per cent to 7.8 million. The news made little impression on the shares, which closed 4p lower at 484p.

Charter rounded off a reasonably impressive performance this week, firming a further 2p to 920p, for a rise on the week of 29p. ABN Amro Hoare Govett, the broker, increased its pre-tax profit forecast for the current year after a visit to the company.

Welsh Water rose 18p to *693p after weighing in with* full-year figures showing pre*tax profits 3.3 per cent up at* £148.9 million and a 33.5 per *cent rise in the payout to 33.9p.*

Park Food dropped 19p to *91p in spite of a 16 per cent* increase in pre-tax profits last *year to £13.7 million and a 20* per cent rise in the dividend. *But the group revealed it had* suffered a £1 million down*turn in its wholesale food* hamper operation.

☐ *GILT-EDGED: Prices fol*lowed the German bund lower in early trading *as it fell below* its support levels.

The losses were accelerated by renewed weakness among US Treasury bonds as reports circulated that a Japanese institutions were boycotting the T-Bond in retaliation to trade sanctions. This was later denied, but the damage to sentiment in London had already been completed, with losses at the longer end exceeding £2 in places.

In the futures pit, the September series of the Long Gilt plunged £1$^{15}/_{16}$ to £105$^{15}/_{32}$ as the number of contracts completed grew to 82,000. Among conventional issues, benchmark Treasury 8 per *cent 2013 was left nursing a* fall of £1$^{13}/_{16}$ at £98$^{5}/_{8}$, *while at the shorter end, Treasury 8* per cent 2000 lost £$^{15}/_{16}$ at £100$^{25}/_{32}$.

☐ **NEW YORK**: Shares were sharply *lower in early trading* as bonds fell and consolidation continued before publication of economic data next week. At midday, the Dow Jones industrial average was down 30.78 points to 4,427.79.

BAA, the airport operator, saw passenger traffic grow

New York selling of shares in Philip Morris, the US tobacco group, *hit BAT Industries, down 15p at 497p. Press reports alleged* that PM conducted tests proving nicotine was habit-forming. This *might affect its fight to prevent tobacco being regulated as a drug.* It is feared further costly court cases could follow.

MOVERS OF THE WEEK

	Current price	Week's change
Zeneca	£10.39	+75p .... Bid speculation
VSEL	£21.56	+323p .... Higher offer from GEC
Wyndham Press	161p	+11p .... Better than expected figures
Erith	77p	+17p Bid approach from Graham Group
Hambros	187p	-28p .... Profits down, dividend cut
Etam	154p	-60 .... Profits warning
Austin Reed	*198p*	*-14p .... Profits warning*
Royal Insurance	316p	-28p .. Goldman Sachs takes off buy list
Welsh Water	693p	+46p ....Bumper dividend, restructuring

MAJOR INDICES

New York (midday):

Dow Jones	4427.79 (-30.78)
S&P Composite	528.31 (-4.04)

Tokyo:

Nikkei Average	15044.18 (-398.12)

Hong Kong:

Hang Seng	9267.62 (-25.16)

Amsterdam:

EOE Index	432.47 (-3.15)

Sydney:

AO	1984.5 (-13.7)

Frankfurt:

DAX	2121.75 (-9.22)

Singapore:

Straits	2160.44 (-15.04)

Brussels:

General	7567.30 (-22.96)

Paris:

CAC-40	1897.02 (-54.17)

Zurich:

SKA Gen	658.40 (-3.30)

London:

FT 30	2512.4 (-33.5)
FT 100	3337.7 (-43.1)
FT-SE Mid 250	3678.9 (-19.2)
FT-SE-A 350	1660.2 (-18.5)
FT-SE Eurotrack 100	1399.31 (-11.85)
FT A All-Share	1641.32 (-17.16)
FT Non Financials	1766.03 (-16.44)
FT Fixed Interest	113.34 (-0.79)
FT Govt Secs	93.45 (-0.93)
Bargains	22377
SEAQ Volume	664.3m
USM (Datastrm)	158.25 (+0.01)
US$	1.5970 (+0.0098)
German Mark	2.2342 (-0.0201)
Exchange Index	84.1 (-0.4)
Bank of England official close (4pm)	
£:ECU	1.1994
£:SDR	1.0212
RPI	149.0 Apr (3.3%) Jan 1987=100

RECENT ISSUES

Brit Aero Cap Uts p/p	698	-2
Finsbury Worldwide	101	...
Gradus Group (122)	126	...
Gus Carter (80)	89	-2
Intl Energy	112	...
Langdons Foods (3)	3½	...
NatWest Irish Smlr (100)	95	...
NatWest Irish Smlr Wts	31	...
Nynex CableComms	*137½*	...
Oryx India	650	...
Oryx India Wts	250	...
Silk Industries (125)	*140*	...

RIGHTS ISSUES

Daniels (S) n/p (34)	20	-5
David Brown n/p (205)	27	...
Laser-Scan n/p (10)	2	*-1*
Prime People n/p (4)	1	...
Scot/New Non-Int n/p	39	...

MAJOR CHANGES

RISES:

Kleinwort Benson	688p (+22p)
Johnston	355p (+10p)
Critchley	554p (+9p)
Ash & Lacy	158p (+8p)
A Cohen	540p (+32p)
Oxford Inst	399p (+8p)
Liberty	*263p (+15p)*

FALLS:

HSBC	818p (-24p)
Lloyds	645p (-9p)
Eurotunnel Uts	*178p (-7p)*
BOC	798p (-10p)
GUS	615p (-9p)
ICI	785p (-11p)
Mitel	305p (-9p)
CRA	817p (-12p)
Glaxo Wellcome	734p (-15p)
Br Land	422p (-12p)
MEPC	405p (-12p)
Park Foods	91p (-19p)
Etam	154p (-22p)

Closing Prices Page 35

TEMPUS

Welsh wizardry

AT privatisation, Welsh Water was allowed the most financial slack and, perhaps, the most generous green dowry. Since management proved to be as efficient as at other water groups, it is no wonder that institutional investors have been putting the company under intense pressure to cough up cash and adopt a more cost-efficient capital structure. *But the company is also more conscious of its* public image than most, since water has long been deeply political in Wales.

The board has squared this circle ingeniously by offering shareholders £132 million of preference stock, worth about 90p per share but only offering cash to customers. The only *downside of this scheme* is that it does not help on corporation tax. The ordinary shares *would also be consolidated* by one sixth to enhance earnings per share, but raising the base dividend by a third *offsets* that and more. Cover will still be 2.7 times and dividend potential good, though not the *highest under new price* limits.

Welsh shares gained 27p to 702p, then slipped *half-way back*. The market's first thoughts were better. At 693p, and assuming preference terms are set to *make them worth* par, the new ordinary would effectively yield 5.85 per cent in dividend and sell at 8.2 times *1994-95 earnings*, which were depressed by a setback at the Acer civil engineering design subsidiary after *road-building* cuts.

Profit-taking yesterday doubtless reflected anxiety that *Welsh, whose* shares stand higher in the sector than any save bid-embroiled Northumbrian, would be vulnerable to any political rethink. Management has at least done its best to look responsible.

RJB Mining

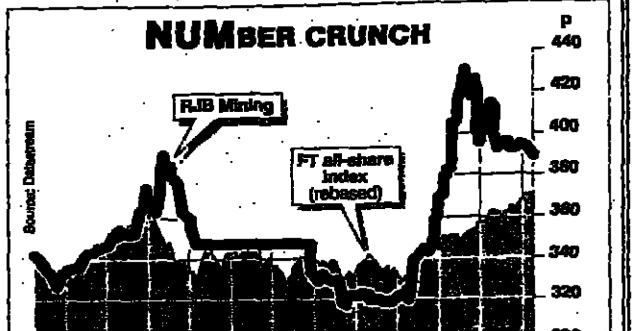
YESTERDAY's news from the appeal court that RJB Mining has been granted a stay of execution from industrial action by the NUM came too late for the market, but the company's shares have been sliding as concern over the dispute has risen and are now 9 per cent off their 430p peak.

The damage to RJB from a series of one-day NUM strikes will be limited, but real. The union accounts for barely a quarter of the group's employees, and less than 40 *per* cent of deep shaft miners. But it has a majority of workers in pits which account for 60,000 tonnes of *coal a day, more than* a third of RJB's total output.

RJB *can minimise* the impact of lost production by *increasing output on other* days and at other pits and raiding reserves, *but strikes* will still slow the key process of repaying debts.

Provided the strike does not escalate however, RJB's finances look robust enough to weather it. The group has been paying down the debts it took on last year when it bought the British Coal operations more rapidly than expected. The original £431 million facility has already been cut to an estimated £270 *million, thanks* to a 6 per cent rise in coal prices.

RJB was bound to run into conflict with the NUM when it took over *the pits*. But provided RJB does not needlessly antagonise *its new* employees, the shares should recover their poise once a settlement is found.



Nynex

NYNEX CableComms owes some thanks to TeleWest Communications, the leading player in the industry, for the success of its Anglo-American flotation yesterday. Nynex raised £383 million through the sale of 305 million shares at 137p apiece. That was near the bottom end of the expected range of 131p to 151p. It might have been even lower if TeleWest hadn't struck a £679 million deal to merge with neighbouring SBC CableComms, the fifth largest operator, on Thursday.

Investors like mergers because *they* create economies of scale. It is more *efficient, for example,* to launch a telephony marketing *campaign at one* large chunk of customers than at detached *bits all* over the country. Nynex is expected to follow TeleWest's lead in the takeover game. TeleWest, the first cable operator to float, also provided a handy benchmark. *Using* a "franchise value per home" calculation, Nynex priced *its shares at a* substantial discount to Telewest, thus *helping* the issue to get away smoothly.

Indeed, Nynex is the only one of seven listed cable companies whose shares did not plummet below their issue price. But investors shouldn't count their gains yet. Nynex, more than any other cable company, has pinned its future on snatching customers from BT. But BT has begun to fight back. Last week, it slashed £310 million from the country's collective phone bill. Cable companies certainly look like better investments *now than* they did a few months ago, but the *situation* could change overnight if BT, with *all its staying power, turns* mean and cuts prices further.

Protean

AFTER its rocky debut on the stock market in the late Eighties, Protean has carved *out a useful industrial* niche for itself in medical and sci*entific equipment. Until* yesterday it seemed that the *group's diverse technical* equipment business would outgrow the original water purification division through regular acquisitions, but the £12.9 million purchase of Walther reverses the trend.

Walther's German operations fit comfortably with Protean's existing business in Britain and France. Since it concentrates on the kidney dialysis market there is an opportunity for cross-selling within the group since Elga focuses more on industrial markets. With a little tax *planning, the price repre*sents only tentimes earnings *and should enhance earnings* by 4 per cent from year one. *The placing keeps the bal*ance sheet decent and the *deal* leaves Protean's shares looking good value on a prospective p/e ratio of *as little* as 11.

EDITED BY NEIL BENNETT

COMMODITIES

LONDON COMMODITY EXCHANGE

COCOA

Jul	928-927	Sep	1039-1037
Sep	948-947	Dec	*1057-1054*
Dec	972-971	Mar	1077-1067
Mar	996-994	May	1100-1075
May	*1010-1008*		
Jul	1025-1023		Volume: 5405

ROBUSTA COFFEE ($)

Jul	2805-2800	Mar	2707-2695
Sep	2735-2732	May	2702-2690
Nov	2727-2725	Jul	*2697-2685*
Jan	2717-2715		Volume: 3293

WHITE SUGAR (FOB)

Reuters		Mar	282.0-80.1
Spot: 411.0		May	286.0-83.6
Aug	*362.0-61.6*	Aug	289.0-86.0
Oct	301.0-00.6	Oct	272.0-67.0
Dec	285.5-84.1		Volume: 2090

MEAT & LIVESTOCK *COMMISSION*

Average latstock prices at representative markets on June 8

(p/kg lw)	Pig	Sheep	Cattle
GB:	94.57	113.22	127.31
(+/-)	-0.87	-7.61	+1.27
Eng/Wales:	94.59	113.08	126.36
(+/-)	-0.85	-7.66	+0.44
(%)	*n/c*	+3.0	*n/c*
Scotland:	93.17	116.68	132.03
(+/-)	-1.24	-6.93	+5.57
(%)	+35.0	+26.0	-32.0

ICIS-LOR (London 6.00pm)

CRUDE OILS ($/barrel FOB)

Brent Physical	17.70	-0.15
Brent 15 day (Jul)	17.60	-0.15
Brent 15 day (Aug)	17.35	-0.20
W Texas Intermediate (Jul)	18.75	-0.20
W Texas Intermediate (Aug)	18.60	-0.20

PRODUCTS ($/MT)

Spot CIF NW Europe (prompt delivery)

Premium Gas .15	B: 195 (-1)	O: 198 (-2)
Gasoil EEC	158 (+1)	159 (n/c)
Non EEC 1H Jun	156 (n/c)	158 (+1)
Non EEC 1H Jul	153 (n/c)	154 (n/c)
3.5 Fuel Oil	95 (n/c)	98 (n/c)
Naphtha	186 (+1)	188 (+1)

IPE FUTURES (GNI Ltd)

GAS OIL

Jun	155.50 BID	Sep	153.00-53.25
Jul	151.00-51.25	Oct	155.50-56.00
Aug	151.25-51.50		Vol: 21283

BRENT (6.00pm)

Jul	17.56-17.57	Oct	17.05-17.08
Aug	17.35-17.37	Nov	16.98-17.03
Sep	17.15-17.17		Vol: 20420

GNI LONDON GRAIN FUTURES

WHEAT (close £/t)		BARLEY (close £/t)	
Jul	125.25	Sep	105.50
Sep	*107.50*	*Nov*	106.40
Nov	108.40	Jan	109.00
Jan	110.40	Mar	110.90
Mar	*112.20*	*May*	*112.75*
	Volume: 140		Volume: 12

POTATO (£/t)

	Open	Close
Apr	112.0	112.3
May	unq	139.5
Jun	..	unq
		Volume: 24

RUBBER (No 1 RSS Cif p/k)

Jul 101.50-102.00

BIFFEX (GNI Ltd $10/pt)

	High	Low	Close
Jun 95	1947	1920	1940
Jul 95	1846	1816	1844
Aug 95	1825	1810	1825
Oct 95	1823	1800	1808
Vol: 569 lots		Open interest: 3724	

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LONDON METAL EXCHANGE

(Official) (Volume prev day)			Rudolf Wolff
Copper Gde A ($/tonne)	Cash: 2905.0-2906.0	3mth: 2869.0-2871.0	Vol: 1623100
Lead ($/tonne)	613.00-613.50	623.00-624.00	93475
Zinc Spec Hi Gde ($/tonne)	1012.5-1013.0	1035.5-1036.5	403250
Tin ($/tonne)	6510.0-6530.0	6360.0-6370.0	16075
Aluminium Hi Gde ($/tonne)	1774.0-1774.5	1796.0-1796.5	752375
Nickel ($/tonne)	7720.0-7725.0	7855.0-7860.0	69570

LIFFE OPTIONS

Series		Calls Jul	Calls Oct	Calls Jan	Puts Jul	Puts Oct	Puts Jan
Alld Dom.	500	44	56½	64	2	5½	12½
(*539)	550	9½	24½	33	17½	24½	32½
Argyll	330	6½	16	23	14½	18½	23
(*332)	360	0½	6	12	38	39½	42½
ASDA	80	8	9½	11	1	3	4½
(*86½)	90	2	4½	6	5½	8	9
Boots	500	23	33	40½	7½	12½	19½
(*523)	550	2½	11	18	42	43	47½
Br Airways	390	15½	24½	32	8½	15	19½
(*403)	420	2½	11	18½	28½	32½	36
BP	420	26	35	41½	3½	8½	12
(*441)	460	4	14	21½	21½	28	31½
Br Steel	160	7½	11½	14	3½	6½	8½
(*166)	180	0½	3½	6	17½	19	20½
C & W	390	23	35	42½	6	13	16
(*404½)	420	7	19	27	20	27½	30½
CU	600	20½	34	46	12½	27½	32½
(*605½)	650	3½	14½	24½	45½	59½	63
ICI	750	44½	56½	73	5	18	23½
(*785)	800	13	28½	45½	24	41½	47
Kingfishr.	420	41	50	59½	2	10	14½
(*456)	460	13	25	36	14	25	31
Land Sec.	600	29½	46	52½	4½	10½	15
(*621½)	650	5½	19½	25	30½	35	40
M & S	390	27	36	44	1½	6	9
(*413)	420	7	17	26	12½	17½	21
Nat West	550	21	31½	42	12	24½	28½
(*555)	600	3	12	20	46	56½	58½
Sainsbury	420	39	48	55	1	4½	7
(*455)	460	10	20½	30	11½	17½	21½
Shell	750	27	41½	52	7	19	23
(*766)	800	4½	15½	26½	35½	46	49½
Smkl Bch.	500	48½	56½	67½	2	9	12
(*543½)	550	12	25½	37½	17	27	33
Storehse	260	19½	23	29	3½	7	8½
(*277½)	280	6	11	17½	12	15½	17
Trafalgar	45	4	6½	9	1½	3½	4½
(*47½)	50	1½	4½	6½	4	6	7
Unilever	1200	59	84½	106½	5½	18	24½
(*1244)	1250	23½	51	75½	22	36½	43½
Zeneca	1000	66½	94	113½	18	40½	54
*(*1040½)*	*1050*	40½	67½	87½	38½	64	77½
Series		**Aug**	**Nov**	**Feb**	**Aug**	**Nov**	**Feb**
Grnd Met.	390	18½	27½	34½	9½	13½	19
(*400)	420	5	13½	20	28	30½	35½
Ladbroke	160	22	24½	28½	1	2½	4½
(*178½)	180	8½	12	16	7	10	12½
Utd Bisc	330	18	26½	33	9	16	19½
(*335)	*360*	7½	13	20	29	33½	36½

Series		Calls Jul	Calls Oct	Calls Jan	Puts Jul	Puts Oct	Puts Jan
BAA	460	24	35	43½	5	10	14
(*483½)	500	4	14½	23	26½	30	34
Thames W	460	38½	38½	43½	4½	11	18
(*498½)	500	5	17	23	26	31	38
Series		**Aug**	**Nov**	**Feb**	**Aug**	**Nov**	**Feb**
BAT Ind	460	43	49	59½	7	12½	14½
(*496½)	500	17½	25½	36	23½	29	32
BTR	330	17½	22½	27½	6½	11½	13½
(*338)	360	4½	9	13½	23½	29	30½
Br Aero	495	46	58½	—	9½	19	—
(*526)	545	19	32	—	31½	42	—
Br Telcm	390	15	18½	22	14	17½	23½
(*394)	420	3½	7	10½	36½	38½	43
Cadbury	447	39	—	—	3½	—	—
(*477½)	486	13½	—	—	17	—	—
Guinness	460	21½	31½	42	10½	16	20
(*467½)	500	5	14	23	34½	39	41½
GEC	300	23	25½	29	4½	7½	10½
(*320)	330	5	10	14½	21	23½	26
Hanson	*211*	20	22	24½	1	4	6½
(*227)	231	7	10½	13½	8	12½	15½
LASMO	160	16	22	26	3	5½	7
(*170½)	180	6½	11	15	13	15	16½
Lucas	180	20½	24½	26½	2½	6½	9
(*196)	200	8	13	16	10	16	18½
Pilkingtn	180	11	15½	19	5½	8	10½
(*187½)	200	3	6½	10	17½	19½	21
Prudential	330	16	23	29	8½	15	17
(*333½)	360	4½	10½	15½	27½	33	34
Redland	420	34½	44	51½	5½	13	16½
(*444)	460	12½	22	30½	23½	32	35½
R-Royce	180	13	17½	22	5	9	11
(*186)	200	4	8½	13	16	20	22
Tesco	280	23½	29½	34½	2½	6½	9½
(*296½)	300	10	17½	22½	9½	14½	18
Vodafone	220	11	18½	23	10½	11½	15½
(*222½)	240	3½	10	14½	21½	23	27
Williams	330	14½	20	26½	7½	13	15
(*333½)	360	3	8	13	27	32	33

FT-SE INDEX (*3336)

	3200	3250	3300	3350	3400	3450
Calls						
Jun	143½	94	48½	16	3	1
Jul	168	126½	89	59	35	19½
Aug	173½	136	102½	73	50	32½
Sep	*193½*	*155½*	*124½*	95	71½	51
Dec	243½	—	180½	—	128½	—
Puts						
Jun	1	2	8½	27	70	120
Jul	12½	20½	35	5[illegible]	86	123½
Aug	22½	35	52	73	101	134½
Sep	33	45	63½	84½	112	143½
Dec	64½	—	100½	—	149	—

Series		Calls Jun	Calls Sep	Calls Dec	Puts Jun	Puts Sep	Puts Dec
Abby Nat.	460	16½	29	39	2½	14	17
(*473½)	500	1	10½	20	27	36	38½
Amstrad	200	14	21	25½	1	5½	8½
(*212½)	220	2	10	15	9	14½	18
Barclays	650	25½	41½	55½	3	17	25
(*672½)	700	1½	16½	30	29	43½	50
Blue Circ.	300	9	19½	27	3	12	16½
(*305)	330	0½	6½	14	25	29½	33½
Br Gas	300	10½	20	24½	2	6	11
(*309)	330	0	5½	10	21	23	28
Dixons	240	8	13	18½	2½	10½	13½
(*244)	260	1	5	10	16	23½	25½
Forte	220	9½	16½	19½	1	5	7½
(*228½)	240	0½	6	9½	12	15	17½
Tarmac	110	6	13	15	1	5½	7½
(*115)	120	1	8	10½	6	10½	13½
Hillsdwn.	180	8	14½	18½	1½	3½	7
(*187½)	200	0	4½	9	13	14	17½
Lonrho	140	8½	13	16½	1	4½	6½
(*147)	160	0½	3½	7½	13	16½	17½
Sears	*110*	*2*	*6*	*8*	1½	4½	5½
(*110)	120	0	2½	4	10	11	11½
Thrn Emi	1250	25½	55	68½	7	41½	50
(*1267)	1300	3½	29	45½	39½	71½	78½
Tomkins	220	17½	21	25	0	5	7½
(*237)	240	2½	9½	14½	5½	14½	16½
TSB	240	13	19	25½	1	7½	11½
(*251½)	260	1½	8½	15½	9½	18	21
Wellcome	*1000*	*65½*	*69*	—	0½	1	—
(*1065)	1050	21	25	—	8½	10	—
Series		**Jul**	**Oct**	**Jan**	**Jul**	**Oct**	**Jan**
Glaxo Well	700	43½	57½	66½	5½	21½	26
(*733½)	750	14	28	40	26	46½	51
HSBC	800	43	65	85½	17	37	47½
(*821½)	850	18	40½	61½	42	62½	72½
Reuter	460	36	48½	59½	4	11	14½
(*489)	500	11½	24½	38½	19	27½	31½
Series		**Jul**	**Oct**	**Jan**	**Jul**	**Oct**	**Jan**
Royal Ins.	300	21	28	35½	4½	12	15
(*314½)	330	5½	13½	21	19½	28	31
Series		**Jun**	**Sep**	**Dec**	**Jun**	**Sep**	**Dec**
Fisons	180	8½	18	23	1	7	11
(*187)	200	0½	9	14	13	18	21
Series		**Aug**	**Nov**	**Feb**	**Aug**	**Nov**	**Feb**
Eastern Gp	650	34½	50	60½	29	37½	46
(*665)	700	14½	29½	39½	61½	68	75½
Series		**Jun**	**Sep**	**Dec**	**Jun**	**Sep**	**Dec**
Natl Pwr	460	21½	27	35	3½	12½	16½
(*480½)	500	1	9	16	32½	36½	38½
Scot Pwr	330	9	17	23½	3	13	17
(*336½)	360	0	4½	11	23½	33½	36

June 9, 1995 Tot: 34632 Call: 15192 Put: 19440 FT-SE Call: 5938 Put: 7335

*Underlying security price.

LONDON FINANCIAL FUTURES

	Period	Open	High	Low	Sett	Vol
FT-SE 100 Previous open interest: 80115	*Jun 95*	*3372.0*	*3376.0*	*3333.0*	*3340.0*	*15839*
	Sep 95	3397.0	3398.0	3358.0	3364.5	3781
FT-SE 250 Previous open interest: 5251	Jun 95				3690.0	0
	Sep 95				3716.0	0
Three Month Sterling Previous open interest: 436317	Jun 95	93.29	93.33	93.28	93.29	9980
	Sep 95	93.01	93.03	92.89	92.91	32588
	Dec 95	92.82	92.85	92.66	92.68	30465
Three Mth Eurodollar Previous open interest: 1184	Jun 95				93.94	0
	Sep 95				94.13	0
Three Mth *Euro DM* Previous open interest: 709416	Jun 95	95.55	95.55	95.52	95.54	14019
	Sep 95	95.64	95.66	95.59	95.64	21064
Long Gilt Previous open interest: 125404	*Jun 95*	*107-23*	*107-24*	*105-30*	*105-31*	3866
	Sep 95	107-05	107-09	105-12	105-15	82836
Japanese Govmt Bond	Sep 95	119.27	119.30	118.82	118.92	2966
	Dec 95	118.26	118.26	118.26	118.02	5
German Gov Bd Bund Previous open interest: 173845	Sep 95	94.92	94.96	93.95	94.00	182301
	Dec 95	94.45	94.45	94.14	93.51	408
Three month ECU Previous open interest: 19821	Jun 95	93.79	93.80	93.75	93.79	830
	Sep 95	93.82	93.85	93.78	93.83	1167
Euro Swiss Franc Previous open interest: 47856	Jun 95	96.70	96.71	96.66	96.66	1691
	Sep 95	96.66	96.69	96.57	96.60	5576
Italian Govmt Bond *Previous open interest: 39730*	Sep 95	99.70	100.05	98.70	98.80	36125
	Dec 95				98.40	*0*

MONEY RATES (%)

Base Rates: Clearing Banks 6¾ Finance Hse 7

Discount Market Loans: O/night high: 5½ Low 5 Week fixed: 6⅝

Treasury Bills (Dis):Buy: 2 mth 6¼ ; 3 mth 6$^{5}/_{16}$. Sell: 2 mth 6$^{3}/_{16}$; 3 mth: 6¼ .

	1 mth	2 mth	3 mth	6 mth	12 mth
Prime Bank Bills (Dis):	6$^{5}/_{16}$-6$^{3}/_{16}$	6⅜-6$^{5}/_{16}$	6$^{15}/_{32}$-6$^{11}/_{32}$	6⅝-6$^{9}/_{16}$	
Sterling Money Rates:	6$^{21}/_{32}$-6$^{11}/_{32}$	6$^{9}/_{16}$-6½	6⅝-6$^{9}/_{16}$	6$^{11}/_{16}$-6¾	7$^{3}/_{16}$-7$^{1}/_{16}$
Interbank:	6$^{11}/_{32}$-6$^{11}/_{32}$	6$^{9}/_{16}$-6½	6⅝-6$^{9}/_{16}$	6$^{13}/_{16}$-6¾	7$^{5}/_{16}$-7$^{3}/_{16}$

Overnight: open 5½, close 5 .

Local Authority Deps:	6½	n/a	6$^{9}/_{16}$	6$^{11}/_{16}$	7
Sterling CDs:	6$^{17}/_{32}$-6$^{9}/_{16}$	6½-6$^{7}/_{16}$	6$^{19}/_{32}$-6$^{17}/_{32}$	6$^{13}/_{16}$-6¾	7$^{3}/_{16}$-6$^{15}/_{16}$
Dollar CDs:	5.95	n/a	5.95	5.93	5.93
Building Society CDs:	6⅜-6$^{5}/_{16}$	6½-6$^{7}/_{16}$	6$^{9}/_{16}$-6½	6$^{11}/_{16}$-6⅝	7⅛-7

TREASURY BILLS: Applcts: £5,554m allotted: £1,300m; Bids: £98.43% received: 97%; Last week: £98.435% received: 27%; Avge rate: £6.2735% last wk £6.0766%: Next week: £1,300m.

EUROPEAN MONEY DEPOSITS (%)

Currency	*7 day*	*1 mth*	*3 mth*	*6 mth*	*Call*
Dollar:	6-5¾	6$^{1}/_{16}$-5$^{15}/_{16}$	6$^{1}/_{16}$-5$^{15}/_{16}$	6-5⅞	5¼-4¾
Deutschemark:	4½-4⅜	4½-4⅜	4$^{9}/_{16}$-4$^{7}/_{16}$	4$^{9}/_{16}$-4$^{7}/_{16}$	5-4
French Franc:	7$^{5}/_{16}$-7$^{3}/_{16}$	7⅜-7¼	7$^{5}/_{16}$-7$^{3}/_{16}$	7-6⅞	8¼-6¾
Swiss Franc:	3¼-3	3¼-3⅛	3$^{5}/_{16}$-3$^{3}/_{16}$	3⅜-3¼	3¼-2¾
Yen:	1$^{5}/_{16}$-1$^{3}/_{16}$	1¼-1⅛	1$^{5}/_{16}$-1$^{3}/_{16}$	1⅛-1	1½-¾

GOLD/PRECIOUS METALS (Baird & Co)

Bullion: Open $386.25-386.65 Close: $387.60-388.10 High: $388.10-388.60
Low: $385.80-386.30 AM: $386.40 PM: $386.40

Krugerrand: $390.00-392.00 (£245.00-247.00)

Platinum: $437.40 (£274.25) Silver: $5.42 (£3.395) Palladium: $157.00 (£98.45)

STERLING SPOT AND FORWARD RATES

Mkt Rates for June 9	Range	Close	1 month	3 month
Amsterdam	2.4981-2.5156	2.4981-2.5013	⅛-⅜pr	1⅛-1¼pr
Brussels	45.94-46.21	45.95-46.05	8-5pr	24-18pr
Copenhagen	8.7150-8.7720	8.7150-8.7300	⅛-⅜ds	¼-1ds
Dublin	0.9778-0.9837	0.9778-0.9803	1ds-2pr	par-5pr
Frankfurt	2.2348-2.2483	2.2348-2.2379	⅛-⅜pr	1⅛-1¼pr
Lisbon	234.33-237.10	234.33-234.98	58-65ds	192-210ds
Madrid	193.51-195.24	193.51-193.81	47-57ds	150-167ds
Milan	2596.3-2632.9	2596.3-2606.0	8-11ds	26-30ds
Montreal	2.1903-2.1983	2.1933-2.1964	0.13-0.24ds	0.22-0.36ds
New York	1.5938-1.5986	1.5938-1.5948	0.06-0.03pr	0.23-0.19pr
Oslo	9.9250-10.0140	9.9250-9.9410	¼pr-par	2¼-1pr
Paris	7.8480-7.9170	7.8480-7.8610	⅛-⅜ds	1⅛-1⅜ds
Stockholm	*11.4800-11.5510*	*11.4800-11.5040*	*1⅛-2⅜ds*	*6¼-7½ds*
Tokyo	134.26-135.44	134.26-134.51	⅛-½pr	1⅛-1⅜pr
Vienna	15.72-15.82	15.73-15.76	2⅛-2⅜pr	8⅛-7⅛pr
Zurich	1.8452-1.8535	*1.8456-1.8484*	⅛-⅜pr	1⅛-1⅜pr

Source: Extel *Premium = pr. Discount = ds.*

DOLLAR RATES

Australia	1.3863-1.3873
Austria	9.87-9.88
Belgium (Com)	28.85-28.86
Canada	1.3760-1.3765
Denmark	5.4781-5.4801
France	4.9365-4.9395
Germany	1.4053-1.4058
Hong Kong	7.7333-7.7343
Ireland	1.6265-1.6275
Italy	1637.0-1639.0
Japan	84.75-84.85
Malaysia	2.4400-2.4410
Netherlands	1.5721-1.5726
Norway	6.2455-6.2505
Portugal	147.70-147.90
Singapore	1.3910-1.3920
Spain	121.80-121.90
Sweden	7.2220-7.2320
Switzerland	1.1573-1.1583

OTHER STERLING

Argentina peso*	1.5944-1.5978
Australia dollar	2.2120-2.2149
Bahrain dinar	0.5955-0.6075
*Brazil real**	*1.4461-1.4503*
China yuan	12.50 Buy
Cyprus pound	0.705-0.715
Finland markka	6.8325-6.9485
Greece drachma	359.0-366.0
Hong Kong dollar	12.3423-12.3517
India rupee	49.64-50.60
Indonesia rupiah	3516.0-3584.6
Kuwait dinar KD	0.4725-0.4825
Malaysia ringgit	3.8942-3.8983
New Zealand dollar	2.3871-2.3907
Pakistan rupee	49.33 Buy
Saudi Arabia riyal	5.9225-6.0485
Singapore dollar	2.2200-2.2230
S Africa rand (com)	5.823-5.925
U A E dirham	5.800-5.924

*Barclays Bank GTS * Lloyds Bank*

FT-SE VOLUMES

3i	192	Lloyds Bk	1,100
ASDA Gp	7,000	MEPC	6,700
Abbey Natl	2,500	Marks Spr	6,000
Alld Dom	471	NatWst Bk	2,200
Argyll Gp	2,800	Nat Power	2,100
Arjo Wiggn	2,100	Nth Wst W	731
AB Foods	361	P & O	618
BAA	1,100	Pearson	615
BAT Inds	3,900	PowerGen	2,100
BOC	3,700	Prudential	3,400
BP	4,500	REXAM	884
BTR	4,900	RMC	282
BT	4,800	RTZ	344
Bk of Scot	2,000	Rank Org	1,500
Barclays	5,900	Reckitt Col	414
Bass	1,200	Redland	1,700
Blue Circle	555	Reed Intl	949
Boots	4,800	Rentokil	1,600
Brit Aero	*1,900*	*Reuters*	550
Brit Airwys	639	Rolls Royce	1,500
Brit Gas	12,000	Ryl Ins	1,800
Brit Steel	7,900	Ryl Bk Scot	2,200
Burmah Cstl	109	Sainsbury	3,200
Cable Wire	2,300	Schroders	*47*
Cadbury	4,300	Scot & New	457
Caradon	718	Scot Power	1,100
Carlton Cms	218	*Sears*	2,400
Cm Union	3,300	Svrn Trent	1,500
Courtaulds	115	Shell Trans	4,300
De La Rue	271	Siebe	1,400
Eastern Elec	125	SmKl Bch	4,700
Enterpr Oil	968	Smith Nph	6,600
Forte	11,000	Sthern Elec	254
GKN	128	Std Chartd	3,300
GRE	2,500	*Sun Allnce*	*1,600*
GUS	1,400	TI Gp	814
Gen Acc	924	TSB	2,800
Gen Elec	*1,600*	*Tate & Lyle*	*1,400*
Glaxo Well	7,400	Tesco	5,300
Granada	1,100	Thames W	8,500
Grand Met	2,600	Thrn EMI	865
Guinness	814	Tomkins	2,600
HSBC	3,100	Unilever	768
Hanson	8,100	Utd Bisc	1,700
ICI	403	Vodafone	11,000
Inchcape	487	Warburg	550
Kingfisher	1,700	Whitbread	861
Ladbroke	2,700	Wlms Hld	869
Land Secs	1,900	Wolseley	1,800
Legal & Gn	1,000	Zeneca	3,300

	Jun 9 midday	Jun 8 close
AMP Inc	41¼	41¼
AMR Corp	70¼	69¼
AT & T	50¾	50½
Abbott Labs	39¼	39⅝
Advanced Micro	34⅞	34¾
Aetna Life	60⅞	61⅛
Ahmanson (HF)	22⅞	22⅞
Air Prod & Chem	52⅞	53⅛
Albertson's	28¾	28¾
Alcan Alumnm	29⅞	29⅞
Alco Standard	74	74¾
Allied Signal	40	40⅜
Alum Co of Am	45⅞	45⅞
Amax Gold Inc	5⅞	5⅝
Amerada Hess	49⅜	49⅝
Amer Brands	39⅞	39⅞
Amer El Power	33⅞	34⅛
Amer Express	34⅛	34⅛
Amer Genl Corp	33⅞	34⅛
Amer Home Pr	75	75¾
Amer Intl	113⅞	115⅜
Amer Stores	27⅜	28⅛
Ameritech	42⅞	42⅞
Amoco	67⅞	68
Anheuser-Busch	56⅛	56⅛
Apple Computer	43⅛	42$^{15}/_{16}$
Archer Daniels	18⅜	18⅜
Armco	6⅝	6⅜
Armstrng Wrld	50⅞	50⅞
Asarco	28⅜	28⅝
Ashland Oil	34⅞	35
Atl Richfield	114	114⅜
Auto Data Pro	62⅞	62⅞
Avery Dennison	41⅞	41⅞
Avon Products	68⅞	68⅞
Baker Hughes	22⅜	22⅜
Baltim Gas & El	24⅜	24⅜
Banc One	32⅜	32⅜
BankAmerica	51	51⅜
Bank of NY	41⅞	42
Bankers Tr NY	61⅞	62⅜
Barnett Banks	48⅞	48⅞
Bausch & Lomb	40⅜	40⅜
Baxter Intl	34⅜	34⅞
Becton Dickson	57⅞	57⅞
Bell Atlantic	53⅞	53⅞
Bell Industries	19⅜	19⅞
BellSouth	60⅞	60⅞
Black & Decker	31⅜	32
Block (H&R)	36⅞	37
Boeing	62⅜	62⅞
Boise Cascade	34⅞	34⅞
Bristol Myrs Sq	67	67⅜
Browning Ferris	36⅞	36⅞
Brunswick	18⅜	18⅜
Burlington Nthn	59⅞	60⅜
CBS	68⅜	67⅜
CNA Financial	89⅜	89⅜
CPC Intl	60	60⅜
CSX	72⅞	72⅞
Campbell Soup	47⅞	48
Can Pacific	16⅜	16⅜
Cptl Cities ABC	94⅜	95⅜
Carolina Pwr	28⅞	29⅜
Caterpillar	61⅞	62
Central & SW	25⅞	25⅞
Champion Intl	47⅞	48
Chase Manhat	44⅞	46⅜
Chemical Bk	44⅜	45
Chevron Corp	48	48
Chrysler	44⅜	44⅜
Chubb Corp	82⅜	82⅜
Cigna Corp	74⅞	75
Citicorp	52⅜	52⅜
Clorox	59⅞	60⅜
Coastal Corp	31⅜	31
Coca Cola	60⅜	60⅜
Colgate-Palmolive	75⅜	76
Columbia Gas	31⅜	31⅜
Compaq Comp	39⅜	39⅜
Comp Ass Intl	64⅜	65⅜
Conagra	33⅜	33⅜
Conrail	52⅜	52⅜
Cons Edison	29⅜	29⅜
Cons Nat Gas	39⅜	39⅜
Cooper Inds	36⅞	37⅜
Corning Inc	32⅜	32⅜
Crown Cork	49⅜	49⅜
Dana Corp	27⅜	27⅜
Dayton Hudson	72⅜	72⅜
Deere	85⅜	85⅜
Delta Air Lines	69⅜	66
Deluxe Corp	31⅜	31⅜
Detroit Edison	28⅜	28⅜
Digital Equip	42⅜	42⅜
Dillard Dept St	28	28⅜
Disney (Walt)	57⅜	57
Dominion Res	37⅜	37⅜
Donnelley (RR)	35⅜	36
Dover Corp	65⅜	65⅜
Dow Chemical	70⅜	71⅜
Dow Jones	35⅜	35⅜
Dresser	22⅜	22⅜
Duke Power	40	40⅜
Dun & Bradstreet	52⅜	52⅜
Du Pont	68⅜	67⅜
Eastman Kodak	60⅜	60⅜
Eaton Corp	59	60
Emerson Elec	67⅜	67⅜
Engelhard Corp	41⅜	41⅜
Enron Corp	35⅜	35⅜
Entergy	24⅜	24⅜
Ethyl Corp	11⅜	11⅜
Exxon	70⅜	71⅜
FMC Corp	62⅜	63
FPL Group	37⅜	37⅜
Federal Express	59⅜	59⅜
Fed Nat Mtge	93⅜	95⅜
First Chicago	56	57⅜
First Interstate	83⅜	83⅜
First Union Rlty	7⅜	7⅜
Fleet Fnl Grp	35⅜	36
Fluor Corp	51⅜	50⅜
Ford Motor	29⅜	30
GTE Corp	33	33⅜
Gannett	54⅜	54⅜
Gap Inc Del	35⅜	35⅜
Gen Dynamics	44⅜	45
Gen Electric	55⅜	57
Gen Mills	51⅜	51⅜
Gen Motors	46⅜	47
Gen Reinsurance	131⅜	134⅜
Gen Signal	37	37
Genuine Parts	39⅜	39⅜
Georgia Pac	79⅜	79⅜
Gillette	84⅜	85⅜
Glaxo Wellc ADR	23⅜	23⅜
Goodrich (BF)	50⅜	49⅜
Goodyear Tire	41⅜	42⅜
Grace (WR)	63⅜	63⅜
Grt Atl Pac Tea	24⅜	24⅜
Great Wstn Fin	*21*	21⅜
Halliburton	38⅜	38⅜
Harcourt General	41⅜	42⅜
Heinz (HJ)	43⅜	44
Hercules	50⅜	50⅜
Hershey Foods	51⅜	52⅜
Hewlett Packard	69	69⅜
Hilton Hotels	66⅜	66⅜
Home Depot	40⅜	41⅜
Homestake Mng	17⅜	17
Honeywell	39	39⅜
Household Intl	49⅜	49⅜
Houston Inds	41⅜	42⅜
Humana	23⅜	23⅜
ITT Corp	109⅜	110
Illinois Tool	49⅜	50⅜
Illinova	24⅜	25
INCO	28⅜	28⅜
Ingersoll Rand	37⅜	37⅜
Inland Steel	29⅜	29⅜
Intel Corp	113⅜	113$^{15}/_{16}$
IBM	89⅜	89⅜
Intl Flav & Fr	49⅜	49⅜
Intl Paper	79⅜	79⅜
James River Va	27⅜	27⅜
Jhnsn & Jhnsn	66⅜	66⅜
Kellogg	67⅜	67⅜
Kerr-McGee	53⅜	53⅜
Kimberly-Clark	58⅜	58⅜
Kmart	14⅜	14⅜
Knight-Ridder	54⅜	54⅜
Lilly (Eli)	76⅜	76⅜
Limited Inc	21⅜	21⅜
LIN Brdcstng	123$^{15}/_{16}$	124
Lincoln Natl	43⅜	44⅜
Litton	38⅜	38⅜
Liz Claiborne	17⅜	17⅜
Lockheed Martin	58⅜	59⅜
Louisiana Pac	22⅜	23⅜
MCI Comm	20	20⅜
Marriott Int	34⅜	34⅜
Marsh & McLen	79⅜	79⅜
Masco Corp	27⅜	28⅜
May Dept St	40⅜	40⅜
Maytag Corp	16⅜	16⅜
McDonalds	36⅜	36⅜
McDonnell D	71⅜	72⅜
McGraw Hill	74⅜	74⅜
Mead Corp	54⅜	54⅜
Medtronic	74⅜	74⅜
Mellon Bk	42⅜	43
Melville Corp	35	35⅜
Merck Inc	47⅜	48⅜
Merrill Lynch	48⅜	48⅜
Minnesota Mine	58⅜	58⅜
Mobil Corp	98⅜	99
Monsanto	86⅜	85⅜
Morgan (JP)	70	71
Motorola Inc	60⅜	60⅜
Natl Semi	27⅜	27⅜
Natl Service Ind	28⅜	28⅜
Navistar Int	15⅜	15⅜
NBD Bancorp	31	31⅜
NY Times A	22⅜	22⅜
Newmont Mng	41⅜	41⅜
Niag Mohawk	14⅜	14⅜
Nike B	79	79⅜
NL Industries	15⅜	16
Noram Energy	6⅜	6⅜
Nordstrom	43	43⅜
Norfolk Sthrn	64⅜	64⅜
Nthn State Pwr	45⅜	46⅜
Norwest Corp	27⅜	28⅜
Nynex Corp	40⅜	40⅜
Occidental Pet	22⅜	22⅜
Ohio Edison	21	21⅜
Oracle	35⅜	35⅜
Oryx Energy Co	14	14
PPG Industries	42	42⅜
PNC Bank	28⅜	27⅜
Paccar Inc	47$^{15}/_{16}$	48⅜
Pacificorp	18⅜	19
Pac Enterprises	25⅜	25⅜
Pac Gas & Elect	28⅜	29
Pac Telesis	26⅜	27⅜
Pall Corp	20⅜	20⅜
Panhandle East	24⅜	24⅜
Parker Hannifin	37⅜	37⅜
Peco Energy	27⅜	28
Penney (JC)	47⅜	47⅜
Pennzoil	48	48⅜
Pepsico	46⅜	46⅜
Pfizer	88⅜	88⅜
Phelps Dodge	58⅜	58⅜
Philip Morris	70⅜	71⅜
Phillips Pet	33⅜	34⅜
Pitney Bowes	38	38
Polaroid	37⅜	37⅜
PriceCostco	14⅜	14⅜
Procter & Gmbl	70⅜	70⅜
Providian	35⅜	35⅜
Pub Serv E & G	28⅜	29
Quaker Oats	34⅜	35
Ralston Purina	49⅜	49⅜
Raychem Corp	37⅜	37⅜
Raytheon	76⅜	77
Reebok Intl	35	35
Reynolds Metals	49	49⅜
Roadway Srvcs	44⅜	45⅜
Rockwell Intl	49⅜	49⅜
Rohm & Haas	57⅜	57⅜
Royal Dutch	125⅜	125⅜
Rubbermaid	28⅜	30⅜
SBC Comms	45⅜	45⅜
Safeco Corp	58⅜	58⅜
St Paul's Cos	49⅜	50
Salomon Inc	40	41⅜
Santa Fe Pac	23⅜	24
Sara Lee Corp	27⅜	27⅜
Seacorp	17	17⅜
Schering Plough	80⅜	80
Schlumberger	64⅜	64⅜
Scott Paper	42⅜	43⅜
Seagram	29⅜	30
Sears Roebuck	56⅜	57⅜
Shell Trans	73⅜	74⅜
Sherwin Wllms	35⅜	36⅜
Skyline Corp	18⅜	18⅜
Snap-On-Tools	34⅜	34⅜
Southern Co	21⅜	22
Sprint Corp	32⅜	32⅜
Stanley Works	39⅜	40⅜
Sun Company	31⅜	31⅜
Sun Microsys	48	48
Suntrust	58⅜	56⅜
Supervalu	28⅜	29⅜
Sysco Corp	27⅜	27⅜
TRW Inc	78⅜	78⅜
TCC Inds	2	2⅜
Tandem Comp	14⅜	15
Tandy Corp	46⅜	46⅜
Teledyne	23⅜	24
Temple Inland	44⅜	44⅜
Tenneco	46⅜	47⅜
Texaco	68	68⅜
Texas Inst	119⅜	120
Texas Utilities	33⅜	34⅜
Textron	59⅜	59⅜
Time Warner	39	39⅜
Times-Mirror A	22⅜	22⅜
Timken	41⅜	41⅜
Torchmark	39⅜	39⅜
Toys R Us	27⅜	27⅜
Transamerica	59⅜	60⅜
Travelers	41⅜	42
Tribune	58⅜	59⅜
Tyco Labs	54⅜	54⅜
UST Inc	29⅜	29⅜
UAL	120⅜	118⅜
US Inds	14⅜	15
USX Marathon	19⅜	19⅜
Unicom	26⅜	27
Unilever NV	128⅜	128⅜
Union Camp	53⅜	53⅜
Union Carbide	29⅜	30
Union Pacific	52⅜	53⅜
Unisys Corp	10⅜	10⅜
USAir Group	9⅜	9⅜
USF&G Corp	16⅜	16⅜
US Life	38⅜	39⅜
US West	39⅜	39⅜
United Tech	77	77⅜
Unocal Corp	28⅜	28⅜
Upjohn	36⅜	36⅜
VF Corp	52	52⅜
[illegible]	27⅜	28
Wal-Mart Stores	24⅜	25⅜
Warner-Lambert	81⅜	81⅜
Wells Fargo	175⅜	177⅜
Westinghouse El	15⅜	15⅜
Weyerhaeuser	44⅜	45⅜
Whirlpool	57⅜	57⅜
Whitman	18	18⅜
Winn Dixie	58⅜	57⅜
Woolworth	15⅜	15⅜
Wrigley (Wm) Jr	44	44⅜
Xerox	[illegible]	[illegible]
Yellow Corp	[illegible]	[illegible]

INVESTOR PERKS 30
Does the small shareholder get a fair deal?

WEEKEND MONEY

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Car insurance designed with women in mind

Tax breaks get negative reception

As part of a focus on housing, **Sara McConnell** seeks expert views on tackling negative equity

Government plans to give tax breaks to beleaguered homeowners with negative equity were denounced this week as "pretty mad", "unthought out" and "doomed to failure" by housing and tax experts.

But other tax breaks could help to give the housing market a much needed kickstart. Calculations done for *The Times* by the Halifax Building Society show that giving first-time buyers relief on the first £60,000 of their loan instead of the first £30,000 could reduce monthly outgoings on a £50,000 loan by £20.86 a month and on a £60,000 loan by £31.30 a month. The abolition of stamp duty would save £600 on a £60,000 loan. First-time buyer tax breaks are favoured by lenders because they are seen as the key to unjamming a blocked market.

More urgently, though, ministers should drop their proposals to restrict income support payments to out-of-work or ill borrowers, if they are serious about getting the housing market back on its feet again, the housing industry argues. But realising that the reduction in income support seems now inevitable, the Council of Mortgage Lenders (CML) will next week call, for the introduction of a single safety net for tenants and borrowers on low incomes. Under the existing system, low earning borrowers get no help with housing costs while tenants do. These changes, coupled with stable interest rates, will do more to bring back long-term confidence than tax breaks, which are seen as a short-term bid for political popularity.

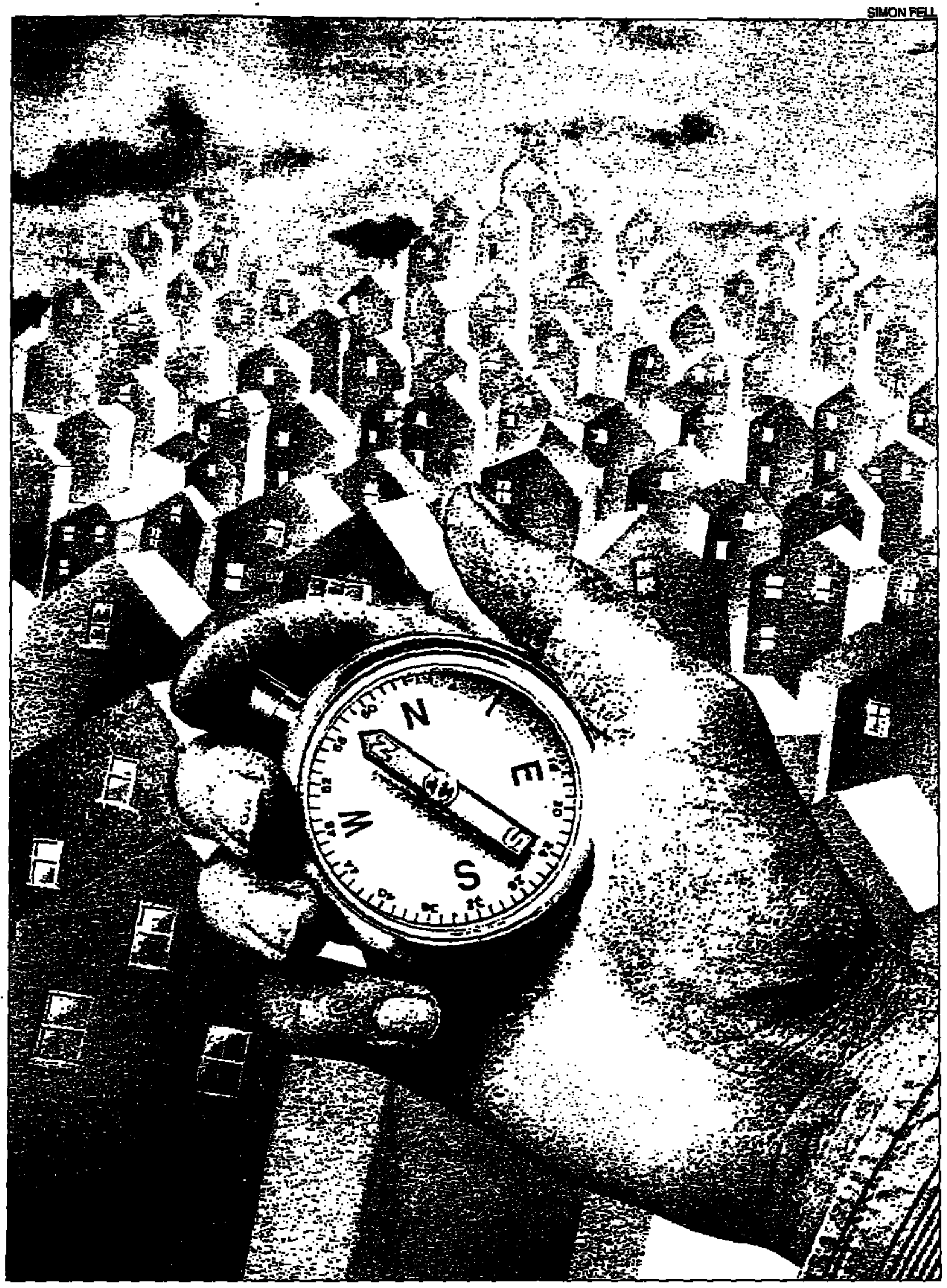
Chris Giles, of the Institute of Fiscal Studies, said: "Our view is that most of these things [the Government's tax plans] are pretty mad. Most of them sound unthought out and suggested mainly for political reasons."

Rob Thomas, housing analyst at UBS, the broker, said it was "bizarre" that the Government was trying to save £200 million a year (its own figures), on the one hand, by cutting income support, while, at the same time, putting forward the possibility of spending millions of pounds on tax breaks.

John Major has instructed his advisers in the Downing Street Policy Unit to investigate new ways of getting back homeowners' confidence. Peter Lilley, the Secretary of State for Social Security, has come under pressure to rethink his proposals to deny state help for nine months to borrowers taking out loans after October 2.

The CML has repeatedly given warning that this will lead to more repossessions. But Mr Lilley seemed this weekend almost certain to emerge victorious from the fight.

So if the Government goes ahead with its tax proposals rather than holding back on income support cuts, how palatable are the options?



SIMON FELL

Which direction should tax breaks take? The path could be rocky, but experts want pointers to revive the market

HELP FOR FIRST-TIME BUYERS

Cost to Treasury: doubling the Miras ceiling to £60,000 would cost £60 million in 1995-96 rising to £480 million in 1999-2000, calculates the Woolwich. Relief for all buyers is expected to cost £2.9 billion in 1995-96.

At the moment, all buyers receive tax relief at 15 per cent on the first £30,000 of the loan that attracts interest. The Chancellor of the Exchequer could announce in the Budget that first-time buyers would qualify for relief on the first £60,000. This would save borrowers with £60,000 loans £31.30 a month. Raising the rate of relief to 25 per cent would save £73.05.

What the experts think:
Peter White, chief executive, Alliance & Leicester: "Increase tax relief for first-time buyers. This is the way to restart the market and that is the only way people are going to get out of negative equity."

Gary Marsh, housing economist, the Halifax: "Some help for first-time buyers would be my second choice [after cutting stamp duty]. But there is a problem in defining who is a first-time buyer."

Peter Robinson, chief executive, the Woolwich: "Doubling Miras to £60,000 for up to five years for anyone buying within a year would have a significant effect on the market."

ABOLISHING STAMP DUTY

Cost to Treasury of abolition: £700 million a year (1993-94).

Anyone buying a house for £60,000 or more pays stamp duty at 1 per cent when they complete the purchase. There is no stamp duty on purchases of cheaper properties.

Abolishing stamp duty immediately cuts the upfront cost of buying by at least £600, but as the average mortgage is only £50,000, most people would feel no benefit. A previous attempt to revive the housing market by suspending the duty for two months in July and August 1992 had no effect.

What the experts think:
Halifax: "Our general view is to avoid a quick fix but as part of a longer-term strategy cutting stamp duty would be the first choice."

Brian Davis, chief executive, Nationwide: "Stamp duty does have an effect on housing transactions. But the key is to engender general enthusiasm for buying and the general noises from the Government do not engender enthusiasm."

Alliance & Leicester: "People are more interested in cutting the cost of running the mortgage. There are enough discounts and deals already to cut the upfront cost."

ESCAPE FROM THE TRAP

Cost: Maybe £500 million. It will depend on how many people want to move and take negative equity tax relief. There are 1.4 million borrowers with loans worth more than their property. Average negative equity is £5,000.

Borrowers wanting to move could set the difference between their mortgage and their house value as a loss against income tax up to a maximum. It is unclear whether the value would be the asking or selling price.

This was the least popular option among those canvassed. They pointed to the difficulty of establishing a fair, fraud-proof way of assessing relief and keeping track of negative equity against house prices. As homeowners do not have to pay CGT on the sale of their main home, being able to realise losses to set against tax would be an anomaly.

What the experts think:
IFS: "This is alien to the way our tax system works. And how could you stop people selling their houses, getting the tax relief and then buying them back?"

UBS: "Any measures specifically to help negative equity are doomed to failure and would be wrong. How can you discriminate between cash buyers with negative equity and people with mortgages?"

Halifax: "Negative equity relief wouldn't be on my list of solutions. From a housing point of view, as long as people have a good payment record, they can move and transfer negative equity."

Woolwich: "Negative equity is still a problem but house prices need to rise to solve it. How would the logistics of a negative equity tax break work? It would be very expensive and open to abuse."

Rates fall but watch penalties

The cost of fixed-rate loans fell this week as lenders rushed to pass on the benefits of cheaper money market funds to borrowers. Large lenders, including the Woolwich and the National & Provincial, cut their fixed rates by about half a percentage point in a further bid to attract buyers in a stagnant market, with specially low rates for first-time buyers. More lenders will certainly follow. Five-year fixed rates are now between 8 and 8.5 per cent and two-year fixed rates between 5 and 6 per cent.

But independent advisers are warning buyers to make sure that they understand the stringent penalties attached to fixed-rate loans. Lenders desperate to keep borrowers from looking elsewhere for a good deal now extend redemption penalties far beyond the end of the fixed term. Borrowers taking advantage of the Woolwich's new first-time buyer rate of 5.49 per cent for two years to June 1997 will actually face a penalty of six months' gross interest if they redeem the loan before June 1999. In the two years between the end of the fixed-rate term and the end of the penalty term, borrowers will revert to the society's prevailing current variable rate, but they will be penalised if they move their mortgage elsewhere.

Simon Tyler, marketing director at Chase de Vere Mortgage Management, a broker based in London, said: "People should make sure even before they pay the valuation fee exactly what the penalties will be."

He admitted that borrowers taking Chase de Vere's two-year fixed rate of 6.99 per cent including remortgaging costs would be penalised if they went to another lender less than four years after taking out the loan.

Lenders argue that, without the extra penalties, rates would be higher. Intense competition for borrowers has pushed them into offering fixed rates at a loss and they claim that the only way of covering themselves is to extend penalties.

Weekend Money is edited by Anne Ashworth

Cash now, risk later

INVESTMENT STRATEGY

GRAHAM SEARJEANT

First the electricity groups, now the water companies. Suddenly, regional utilities seem to be awash with money, just after their regulators supposedly cut prices to the bone. Most have been able to give big boosts to shareholders and promise rebates, price cuts or extra services to customers.

Regulators are not fools, whatever critics may say. Rather, the rules of the game have changed. The signal for that was not the price reviews but a much less dramatic event: the expiry of golden shares that prevented takeover bids.

Threat of takeover is one of the strongest incentives for managers to perform. At least, that is what those who make money from takeover bids claim along with their academic mouthpieces. In the 1980s, it became the common view. So ministers thought it a good idea to expose most privatised companies to this "market discipline", once they had time to adjust to the ways of the private sector. Ministers made no distinction between companies in competitive industries and utilities with a degree of monopoly — virtually complete local monopoly in the case of water firms. But the threat of takeover has different effects in these cases.

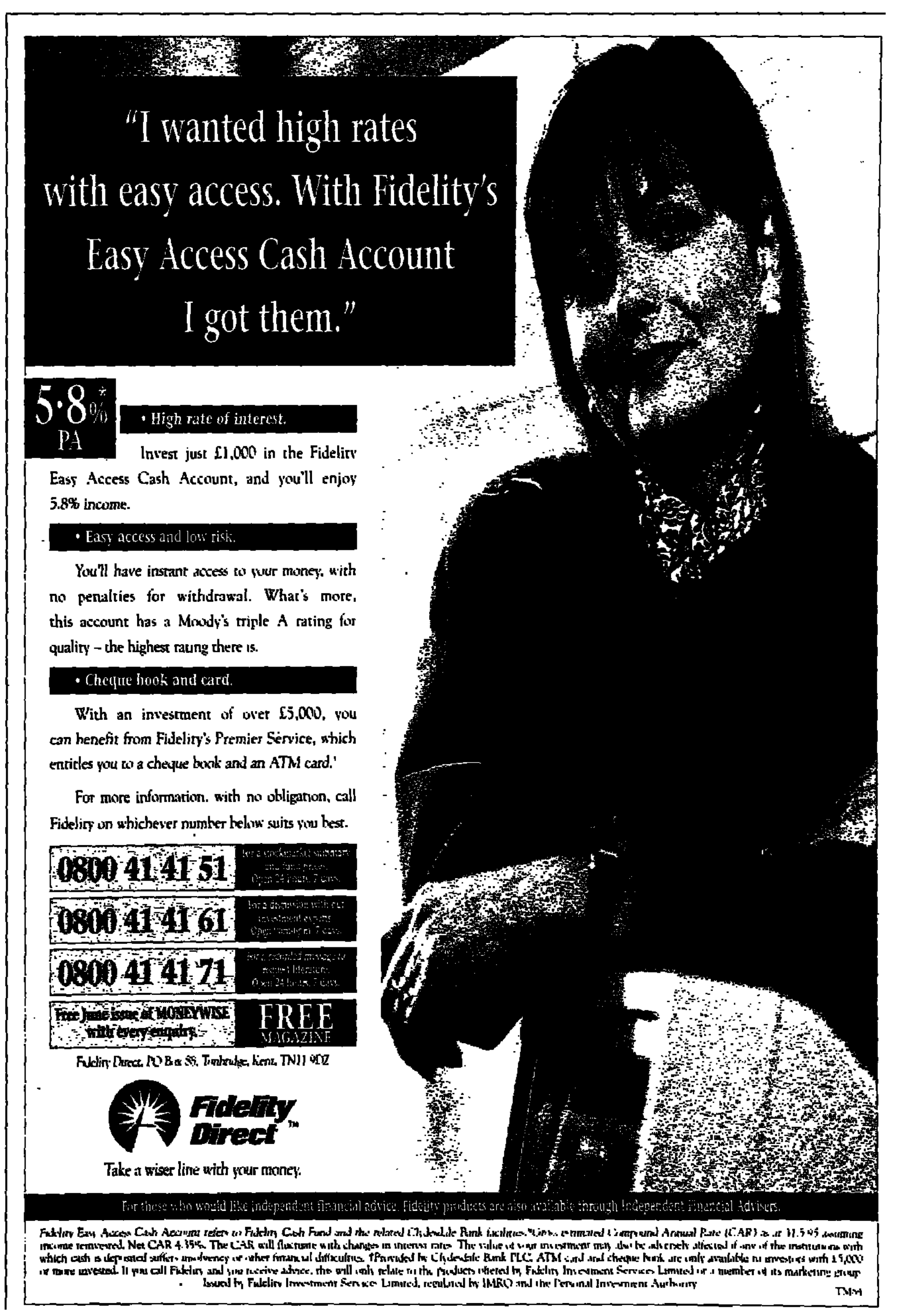
In a competitive market, pressure on management may be raised, but consumers should not be affected because they can shop around. If a monopoly comes under pressure from the big institutional shareholders that control its destiny, then their interests take precedence over consumers — and small investors. Several water utilities, and electricity companies such as Seeboard, are giving customers extra benefits or price rebates beyond those demanded by their respective regulators. Everyone seems to be benefiting. What is actually happening, however, is that the boards are taking more financial risks than their regulators assumed was prudent.

This is particularly the case in water. In essence, companies think they can borrow far more than price limits set by the regulator assume. If they can do this, they can give special handouts to shareholders and cut their financing costs. The interest cost of borrowing is fully tax deductible. But water companies will soon run out of other allowances against corporation tax on profits, raising the cost of share capital.

If they can borrow much more, however, customers need pay far less. On privatisation, the Government reckoned £30 billion of investment in water was too much for shareholders to finance by borrowing, so most of it had to be paid for upfront, in cash charges, by consumers. If companies can borrow twice as much as assumed, charges to consumers could be markedly lower. The regulator set the latest price limits on a completely different basis, but he still worried about gearing becoming too high, in case interest rates rose sharply, as in the late 1980s. That could, he thought, endanger companies' financial stability. Boards are now prepared to take this risk to satisfy the demands of City shareholders for cash now.

These changes are bemusing for private investors. Most of us bought utility shares in the hope of a good return that grew modestly and steadily in real terms, but was utterly safe. If dividends rose slightly faster than average incomes, most of us would be happy. The threat of takeover has boosted short-term returns enormously, but increased risk.

Not the least of these risks is political. If utilities demonstrate that they have spare money that they do not need, for instance by share buybacks or special dividends, others will eye it and lick their lips. The regional electricity companies have paid out about £1.3 billion and rising. Water companies may end up paying out even more. They would have little defence against, say, a £3 billion selective levy imposed by Kenneth Clarke, let alone any future Labour Chancellor. Institutional shareholders can take their ca… and flee. Many long-term private shareholders will find their staid, low-risk investments are not what they thought — or what they wanted.



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The new M&G Handbook

Housing focus: assurance and insurance

When letting is an option

Ian Hunter on a popular way to escape from the depressed housing market

DES JENSON

Liz Mayer is letting her flat while she studies for two years in Canada

Liz Mayer, formerly a partner in a firm of City of London solicitors, has decided to go to study for two years in Canada. Rather than sell her north London flat she has decided to let it — an option taken by many owners trapped in a depressed housing market.

Mortgage deeds usually state that a property can be sub-let only with the lender's permission. Unauthorised sub-letting normally provides the lender with the option of cancelling the loan, coupled with the right to sell the property to recover its money.

Most lenders charge an administration fee for considering borrowers' requests for permission to sub-let. Usually lenders want to satisfy themselves that the letting will not affect their ability to get possession of the property if the borrower defaults on the mortage repayments. The lender will usually require the tenancy agreement to record its right to possession if the borrower defaults.

Most landlords such as Ms Mayer usually grant their tenants an agreement in the form of an assured shorthold tenancy. These give the tenant a minimum of six months' security of tenure. However, at any time after the first four months of the tenancy agreement, the tenant can be asked to leave on two months' notice.

Landlords should avoid granting tenants possession until the documentation has been prepared and completed.

The tax regime governing rental income is complex. Those working abroad normally lose their Miras relief. However, there is an Inland Revenue concession that allows relief to continue in respect of temporary absences of up to a year, or up to four years where the taxpayer is required to work away from home. The advantage with Miras relief is that it can be set against income from any source. However, those with larger mortgages are better off setting the rental income against mortgage interest payments, rather than claiming Miras relief. Interest payments on the entire property loan (not just the first £30,000) can be set against tax payable on rental income as long as the property is let for at least 26 weeks in each year.

It is also possible to set against tax expenses such as gas, electricity, insurance premiums, maintenance and repair costs, although not improvements. Any unused tax relief can be carried forward to the next tax year.

The Revenue advises landlords to "keep a careful note of rents received and possible receipts for expenses".

In addition, the Revenue provides a "rent a room" scheme under which landlords, provided they satisfy certain requirements, are entitled to receive up to the first £3,250 free of tax. However, under the scheme, expenses cannot be claimed. The scheme is designed primarily for those taking in lodgers.

Those letting their homes for prolonged periods should be aware that they risk having to pay capital gains tax on a proportion of the profit made on any subsequent sale of the property. Relief from CGT is available only on the sale of a property, if it is the owners' "only or main residence". This relief will be reduced if during a period of ownership it is let for large proportions of time. Tenants in the United Kingdom who pay rent directly to non-resident landlords must, by law, withhold basic rate tax on the rent paid. The tenants should then pay the tax to the Revenue. This applies even if the rent is paid into a UK bank account. This can be avoided by appointing an agent.

Rent can be paid to a duly authorised agent without deduction. The agent will be accountable for the payment of the tax on the rent received on behalf of the landlord.

A professional agent is likely to seek an indemnity from the landlord. An inventory should be prepared of the property's contents. It may also be useful to take photographs of the property before the tenancy begins. This will help to minimise arguments as to who is responsible for any restorative work necessary at the end of the tenancy. One option is to agree at the outset that the tenant will be responsible for cleaning and redecorating the property.

The tenant should also be asked to provide a deposit as a form of insurance against any loss or damage.

Lenders in a muddle over MIG

Liz Dolan reports on the homeowners looking to bridge the negative equity gap

While the Government hunts for a piece of sticking plaster with which to cover the negative equity gap, the stream of homeowners making its way to the self-styled negative equity buster, Union Finance, is growing all the time.

There is still no sign that lenders are making real efforts to test Union Finance's contention that a special type of insurance policy, a mortgage indemnity guarantee (MIG), taken out by lenders on behalf of borrowers, will wipe out negative equity and repay mortgage debts.

Instead, there is strong — albeit largely anecdotal — evidence that court cases to recover mortgage debts from Union Finance clients are being abandoned before judgment can be pronounced because the lender suddenly decides to write off a large part of the debt.

Union Finance has attracted an enormous amount of publicity by telling people with negative equity that they are no longer liable for the debt if they hand in their keys and walk away. This "solution" is potentially extremely risky and is in no way recommended by Weekend Money, not least because it has never been proven in a court of law. However, neither has the unanimous contention of lenders and insurers that Union Finance is talking rubbish.

When the Woolwich Building Society started legal proceedings to recover £20,000 from a borrower (and Union Finance client), it made no bones about its determination to secure a legal judgment that would clear up any misunderstandings once and for all. "We want a trial to clear the air," it told Weekend Money, earlier this year. "We are doing this as a matter of principle." This resolution appears to have lasted only as long as it took the judge to demand that the Woolwich release the full MIG contract to the other side. The society promptly said it would do so only under strict conditions. Gadsby Wickes, the borrower's solicitor, refused, and the Woolwich immediately offered to waive £13,000 of the total debt — the portion covered by the MIG contract, underwritten by Legal & General. The offer was turned down, however, and the society has been forced to accede to the judge's ruling. A date for the full hearing has yet to be announced. The building society refuses to expand on its reasons for making the offer. It will say only that the other side's response was "unsatisfactory", and that it cannot comment further "for reasons of confidentiality".

Judkins: questions on disclosure

A rival building society chief said privately this week: "This sort of behaviour does nothing to help the rest of us."

Paul Judkins, a solicitor handling a number of such cases, wrote recently in the *Law Society Gazette*: "What reasons can a lender have for not disclosing this policy? We suggest some possibilities: the MIG policy covers the borrower; there is no policy; or the policy is not in accordance with the mortgage offer."

The second of these suggestions refers to the fact that some lenders took MIG premiums from borrowers during the housing boom, but did not actually obtain cover from an insurer. Criticism of this practice was this week dismissed as "stupid" by a spokeswoman for the Council of Mortgage Lenders. These payments were not "premiums", she said. Lenders were simply charging borrowers a fee to offset any additional risk involved in providing a mortgage.

But, a spokesman for the Building Societies Commission, the industry regulator, said he thought the BSC might "have difficulties" if a building society had taken insurance premiums from borrowers in the late 1980s and early 1990s without negotiating any sort of insurance contract with an insurance company. Societies were not allowed to set up their own insurance companies before May 1993.

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Skipton move becomes a Major issue

ANNE ASHWORTH

Personal Finance Editor

Until this Thursday, the Skipton Building Society's greatest claim to fame was the Prince of Wales's criticism of its former head office. The building, off Skipton high street, was viewed by the heir to the throne as a carbuncle on the face of a fair Dales town.

When the society moved up the road into something more to his traditional tastes, he declined to cut the ribbon at the opening. Norman Lamont, then the Chancellor, did the job instead.

After these events, the Skipton returned to its normal role as the sixteenth largest society. But this week, John Major led the 142-year-old society once more into the limelight. In the Commons, the Prime Minister held up the Skipton as an example to its fellows for its decision to offer free unemployment cover to almost all its 55,000 borrowers.

Mr Major said the policy was a high quality comprehensive system of mortgage insurance, the perfect replacement for income support for homebuyers that the Government proposes to reduce.

The effects of the Skipton's move will be far reaching, influencing not only the angry debate between ministers and lenders over the income support proposals.

The mortgage industry has pointed out that millions of homebuyers would be ineligible for cover because they were self-employed, or in short-term contract work. But, although some such workers are excluded under the terms of the Skipton policy, building societies that had hoped to postpone the implementation of the proposals, now concede that they can only argue over detail.

They now hope to persuade ministers that a concession be made to the self-employed and contract workers who cannot get cover, allowing them to continue to rely on the state safety net.

It could be that the Skipton deal presages a new highly selective mortgage market, in which those with large deposits and secure jobs will be the only favoured customers.

But the need for lenders to sell loans to the greatest number of people should counter such a development. Having realised that the new income support limits are now an inevitability, the lenders will be turning their attention from Whitehall to the insurers. They will be demanding policies with the widest possible scope.

'Cheap' cover

FOR those who qualify for mortgage protection insurance but will grudgingly pay the premiums, seeing them (quite rightly) as yet another tax, the Skipton deal is good news. Anxious for a slice of the extra business that should shortly be available, credit protection insurers are dropping their premium rates.

Free unemployment cover will be given to Skipton borrowers (with certain exceptions) with effect from October. But those who prefer a policy protecting their payments against unemployment, plus sickness and accident can get cheap rate cover. The rate is £4.50 per £100 of monthly payment. Although this still means an extra £20.25 a month for someone with a £60,000 mortgage, rates of £7 per £100 worth of payment have recently been quoted elsewhere.

However, aspiring Skipton borrowers attracted by this offer should realise that it will not last for ever. Also, that the description "free" is not entirely accurate. The society says that it is bearing the £2 million a year cost itself. However, as a building society is a mutual organisation which belongs to its members, the cost is more correctly being met by the customers.

The Government faces heavy criticism over the pensions mis-selling issue, says **Liz Dolan**

Insurers square up for a scrap

Professional liability insurers are likely to be among the hardest hit

A head of steam is building among members of the insurance industry angered by the Government's continuing refusal to accept any blame for the pensions mis-selling debacle of the late 1980s and early 1990s.

As pensions providers and financial advisers sift through hundreds of thousands of case files in an attempt to identify possible victims of bad advice, there are signs that industry chiefs are fast losing patience with what they see as a bad case of ministerial buck-passing.

"It was all very well for the Government to spend a large amount of money on persuading people to take out personal pensions in the late Eighties, but it can't then wash its hands of responsibility for the result," says David Wilkinson, a lawyer acting for a group of professional liability insurers likely to be among the hardest hit by the estimated final bill of up to £2 billion.

"There is at the very least a moral case to answer here," Mr Wilkinson adds. "The clients we represent, and some we don't, are quite keen to make this point." They are awaiting the findings of several working parties before unleashing a fully-fledged assault, he says.

"From 1988 onwards, the Government was intent on moving pensions out of the public arena and into the private sector. It offered large incentives to people to do so, but it failed to ensure that adequate regulations were in place beforehand. In a commission-based industry, the salesman has only one goal — to sell the product. But guidance notes weren't issued to sales staff until the early 1990s, when most of the problems had already occurred."

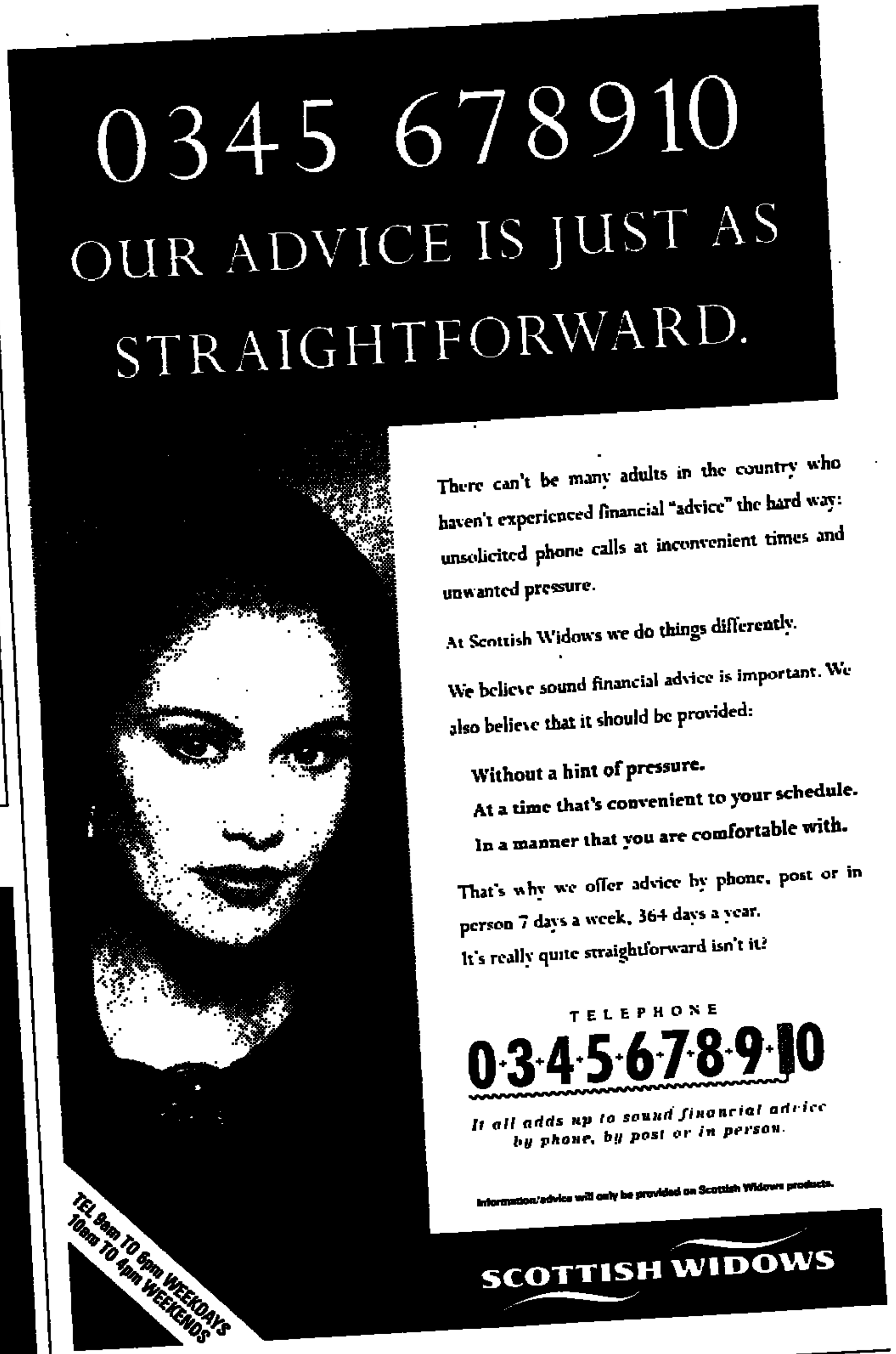
While the insurance industry prepares to blast ministers, the GMB union this week turned the screw a notch tighter on the insurance industry. Faced with what it perceives to be an unacceptable level of foot-dragging by pensions providers investigating possible cases of mis-selling, the union is sueing the Prudential, Norwich Union, TSB, Abbey Life, Albany Life, Manufacturers Life, and General Portfolio.

"We will hound these companies like terriers until our members have their money back," said John Edmonds, general secretary. "The City has tried to play down the importance of the personal pensions scandal [but] ordinary people should not have to suffer a hangover in the Nineties by the binge of the finance companies in the Eighties."

When the Securities and Investments Board first published its damning report on the pensions scandal last October, victims were told that they would have to wait up to two years for compensation, or for the restoration of lost benefits.

The GMB was among several unions to attack the length of time the industry was given to right any wrongs. Bill Day, its pensions officer, said at the time: "It is not good enough to promise compensation in 1997. These policies were sold quickly and the mess should be resolved quickly."

It is not yet clear how many cases will be handled, for free, by the Personal Investments Authority ombudsman and how many will have to go through the courts. About 350,000 cases are being reviewed automatically, with up to a million more entitled to request an investigation.



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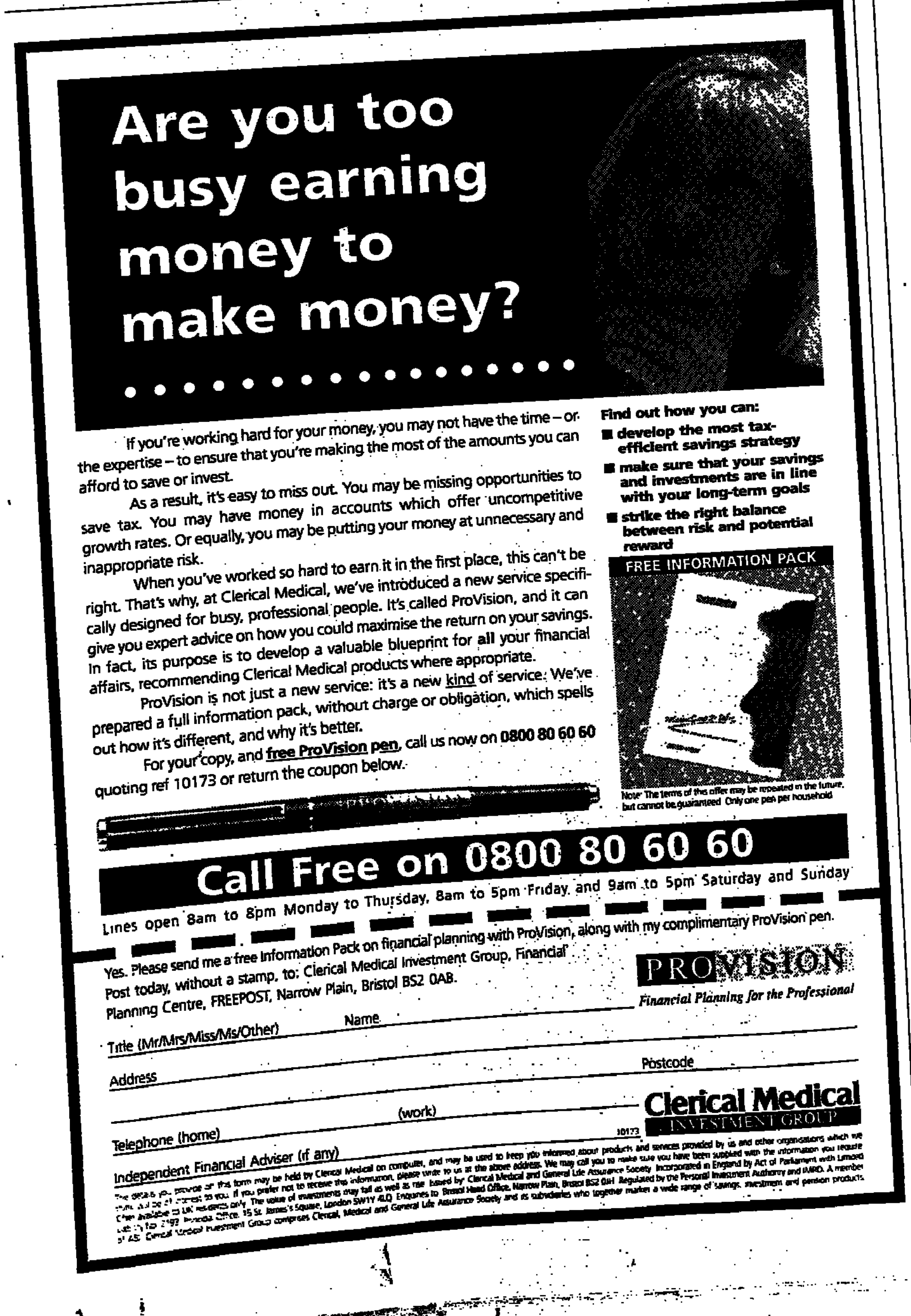

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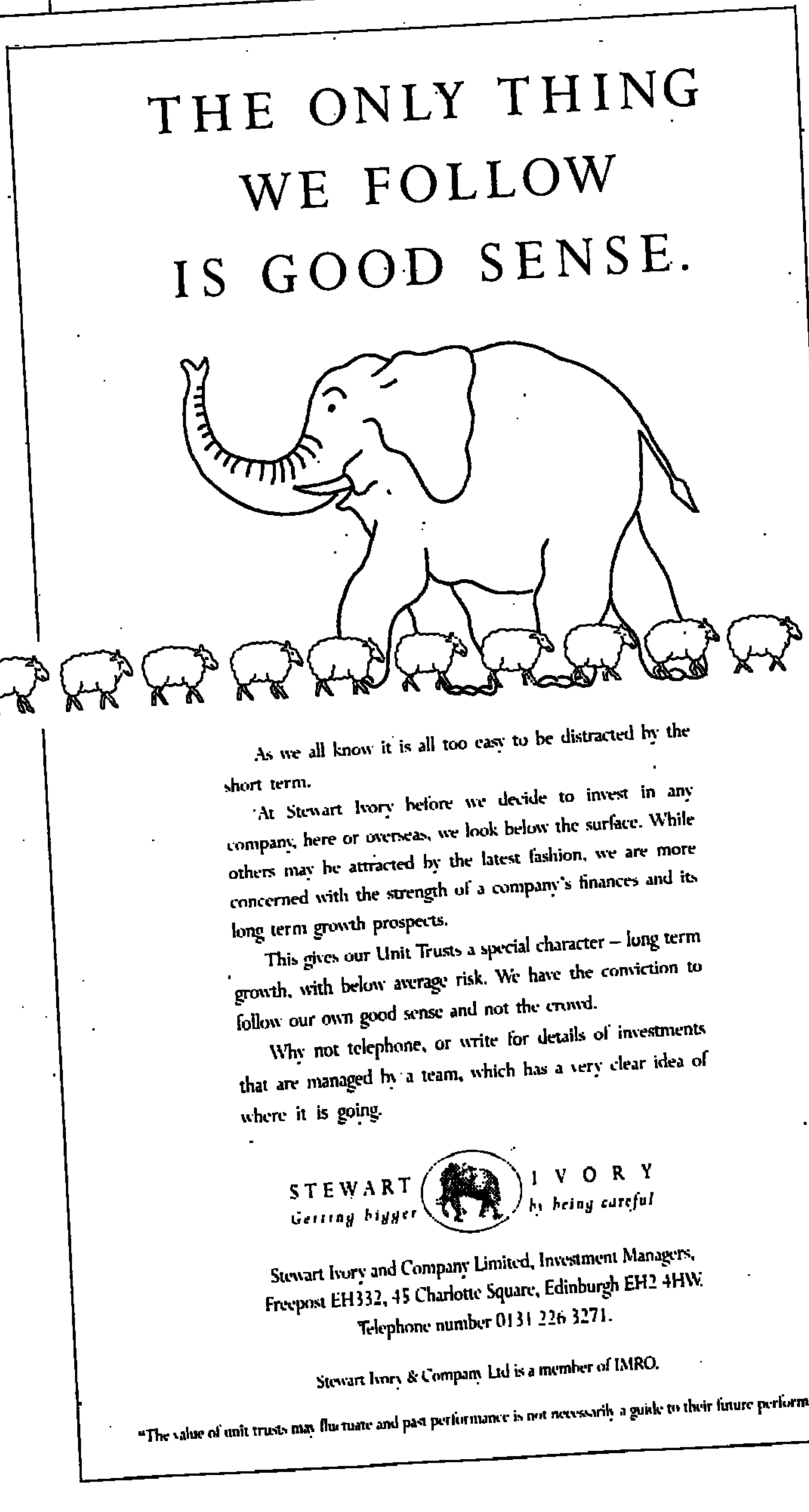

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Short shrift for the smaller investor?

Sharon Colback and **Liz Dolan** on the rights of private shareholders

The Savoy Group puts out the welcome mat, offering discounts to investors

Just how much power is wielded by private shareholders in large public companies? "Not a lot" is the answer you are likely to get from any of the 4.500 angry British Gas investors who flocked to oust Cedric Brown from his seat at last week's annual meeting. They arrived to be told that their combined votes were as nothing compared with those already cast in his favour by way of the institutional block voting system.

But at least these shareholders still had the right to turn up at the meeting, voice their views and cast their votes at the end: There are fears that all that might change after June 26, when the Stock Exchange introduces the five-day rolling settlement system. Under this system, an entire share transaction must be completed in five days, or less.

As the exchange of paperwork is greatly reduced — there is no share certificate or completed Talisman form to forward — nominee accounts help to speed up transactions.

But at the same time, those who use them could lose many of the rights they enjoyed as individual shareholders.

Stephen Pinner, a stockbroker with City Deal Services, believes that investors are being pushed hard by stockbrokers to lock into nominee companies.

"They do overcome some of the problems which will result from the speeded-up settlement," he agrees. "But there is an easy way round it. If people don't want to lose their rights, they can opt to retain ten-day settlement. It won't cost any more and it gets round the limitations of the nominee system."

This may mean having to shop around for an alternative to your normal stockbroker, but it could be worth it for shareholders who value their independence.

Whether your shares appear on the company register in your own name or are registered in the name of a nominee company with you as the beneficial owner, you are entitled to receive dividends and to participate in the capital growth of the company.

But, if you are using a nominee company, any other rights are subject to negotiation or, in some cases, forfeited.

Registered shareholders receive annual reports and accounts, plus notification of any proposed rights issues or takeover bids. They also have the right to influence company policy on the basis of one share, one vote. But when you lodge your shares with a nominee company, that company becomes the registered shareholder and assumes these rights in your place.

It is then up to the nominee company, for instance, to request enough annual reports and other relevant literature to pass on to its members. But this is a concession, not a right.

The nominee company can also make arrangements for you to attend your company's annual meeting, but you will not normally be allowed to speak. You may retain individual voting rights, but will not be able to do so on a show of hands.

The voting power of shareholders can be important in shaping a company's direction. They can appoint, reappoint or dismiss directors and company auditors and, provided they have the signatures of 100 shareholders, propose a motion. With the support of the owners of 10 per cent of the share capital, they can call an extraordinary general meeting.

Once your shares are registered with a nominee company, you no longer have these powers automatically and they need not be reinstated by the nominee.

SOME investors prefer to take charge of their own affairs; others are quite happy to allow others to take over the responsibility. "Don't rush your decision," says Justin Urquhart Stewart, of Barclays Stockbrokers. "Take your time. If you're not sure what you want to do, stay in certificated form and see how you feel later on." If you decide to transfer into a nominee account, Mr Urquhart Stewart recommends asking the following questions:

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Fuller Smith & Turner	100	Discs on trade prices on beers wine and spirits. Free delivery in Britain
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Johnson Gp Clnrs	200 ord 1000 10p pref 1000 1.00 pref	25% disc on cleaning.
Ladbroke Group	No min	10% off rooms in Hilton Hotels. 10% off food and drink in Hilton restaurants. Free upgrades, where available, in UK
McCarthy & Stone	500†	£1,000 or foreign equivalent disc per M&S property in UK (retirement homes) France or Irish Republic
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Savoy Group	10 in 'A' or five 'B' ord shares	10% disc on rooms at the Savoy, Claridges, Connaught and other group hotels
Sketchley	1,000 shares	25% discount card
Thorntons	200 shares	Discount vouchers
Whitbread	No min	£45 of discount vouchers

Source: Barclays Stockbrokers. Correct to the end of April. †Held for 12 months

- Am I entitled to a copy of the report and accounts of a) the companies in which I have shares and b) companies in which I am not invested? Do I have to pay for them?
- Are my voting rights protected? Do I retain the right to a postal vote, and to attend agms and egms? Do I have to pay for this?
- When do I receive my dividend? (Some nominees sit on the cheques before sending them out. This is unacceptable.)
- Are my perks protected? (Some companies, such as P&O, Next and Eurotunnel, will not grant perks to shareholders in nominee accounts. Others will, but the nominee may not pass them on.)
- How do you stand in relation to the Investors' Compensation Scheme? (Nominee companies are not themselves regulated, but the individuals running them often are — if they are stockbrokers, or bankers, for instance. Make sure that you will have the right to an ICS payout if things go wrong.)

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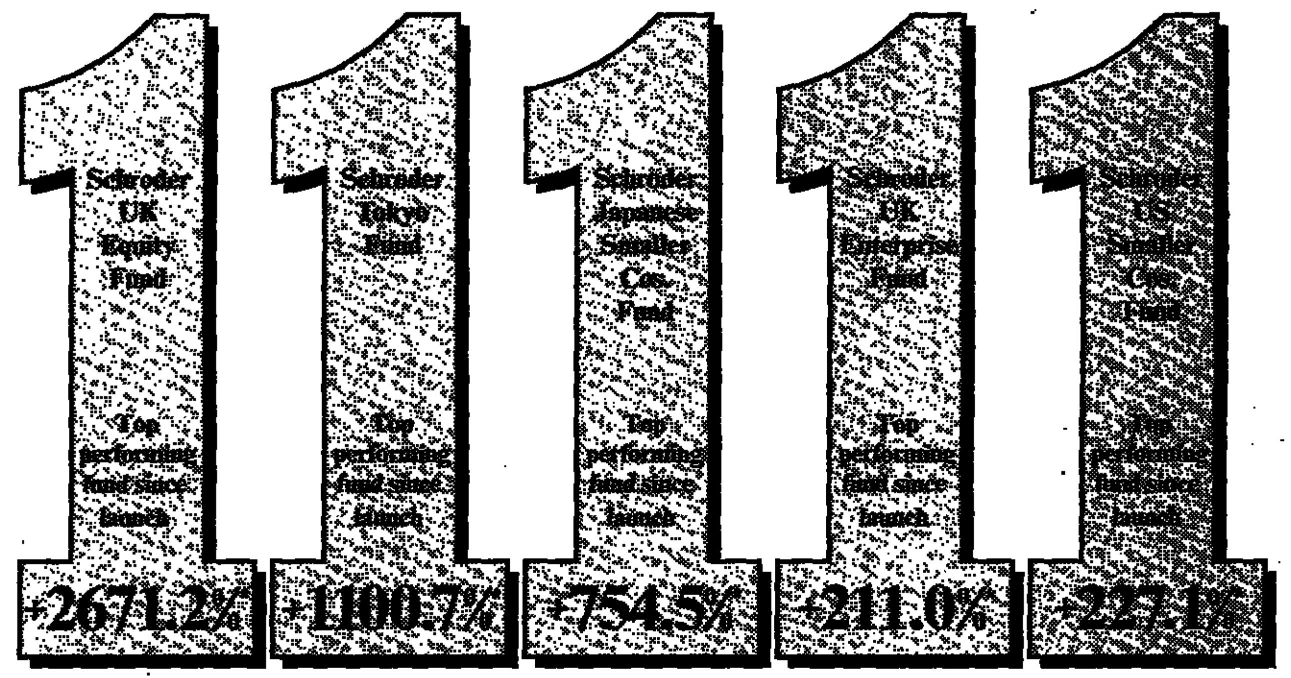
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Caroline Merrell and **Morag Preston** offer advice to the growing band of mobile phone users

Make the right connections

Mobile phones have ceased to be yuppie toys and have become *de rigueur* for many from all walks of life. The number of users has risen dramatically over the past year, and the total number of the phones in the UK could reach 18 million by the end of the decade.

This growth is almost inevitably going to create problems for consumers, as more companies try to grab a slice of the action before the market runs out of steam. For the novice, buying a mobile phone has many pitfalls. Perhaps the least important decision is the selection of handset, while the most important is choosing the right tariff from the right network to suit the pattern of your calls. Some tariffs offer a low rental, but high call charge, while the reverse is true for others.

Most suppliers insist that you sign up for one year, with a notice period of up to three months should you decide to switch networks or discontinue using your mobile, making the right choice at the outset is vital. It is worth remembering that the minimum amount you can pay in rental charges for a mobile phone is £150 annually, assuming you make no calls.

Connection charges vary from about £30 to about £70, monthly rental starts from £10 and rises to more than £100, while the call rate begins at about 8p a minute and rises to 80p. In the UK, there are six incompatible networks from four phone companies. They are the Mercury One-2-One (Digital), Cellnet (Analogue), Cellnet (Digital), Vodafone (Analogue), Vodafone (Digital) and Orange (Digital).

The key to understanding the market is to appreciate how products are distributed. The companies sell through "service providers" that deal directly with the public or through other high street companies such as Dixons. The two original providers, Vodafone and Cellnet, deal predominantly through service providers while Mercury and Orange deal directly with high street companies. The service providers and dealers are free to charge whatever tariff they like, although all the phone companies have recommended tariffs. The phone companies pay their distribution channels commission for each subscriber they take on. Figures of between £60 and £150 have been suggested as commission rates, but none of the phone companies was willing to disclose the exact amount, claiming it was commercially sensitive information.

The minimum contract length is usually a year, with three months' termination notice and you may have to pay a fee if you want to move to another tariff or network.

The amount of compensation that you can get if the service goes wrong is usually limited to a year's rental. However, legislation based on an EC directive coming in next month is expected to give more protection.

Keep a look out, buying a mobile phone has pitfalls

How to ring the changes

[illegible]

The mobile phone, popular among women out on their own, is a useful safety device. The reassurance of knowing that you are in touch provides peace of mind. For users who intend to make only occasional outgoing calls, Peoples Phone recommends the emergency tariff. Connection costs £23.50, and line rental is £11.74 per month. Calls are billed in whole-minute increments, and cost 76p per minute. If you intend to make more than ten minutes of calls each month, consider the economy tariff. The Carphone Warehouse recommends the Motorola Micro TAC Classic flip phone, connected to the Cellnet lifetime tariff. The package costs £14.99, and line rental is £15 per month. Calls are charged at 50p per minute between 8am and 7pm, Monday to Friday, and 20p per minute at other times. Calls are charged for the first minute, and then at half-minute increments. Call Connections recommends the lifetime for peace of mind package. Connection costs £29.50, and the monthly subscription is £9.99. Calls cost 80p per minute, and are charged for the first minute and then at half-minute increments.

SOCIALITE

For anyone making a modest number of calls who is also receiving calls, Peoples Phone recommends the urban tariff. Connection costs £47, with line rental at £23.50 per month. Designed for customers in big towns, peak-rate calls cost 15p per minute and 5p per minute off-peak. Calls are half-price from your postcode area, but are more costly in rural areas. The Carphone Warehouse recommends the Motorola MR1, connected to the Orange tariff talk 15. The handset is £99.99 and connection costs £30. Line rental is £15 per month and includes 15 minutes of free airtime. Calls cost 25p per minute between 7am and 7pm, Monday to Friday, and 12.5p at other times.

SELF-EMPLOYED

Any self-employed person who plans to use a mobile regularly could use the primetime for frequent users (see the yuppie). Carphone Warehouse recommends the Nokia 101 handset on the Cellnet primetime tariff, which offers countrywide coverage. The package costs £14.99, and line rental is £25. Calls cost 25p per minute between 8am and 10pm, Monday to Saturday, and 10p at other times. Peoples Phone recommends the London tariff for those who expect to make at least 75 per cent of calls within the M25. Connection costs £47, and monthly line rental is £29.37. Peak-rate calls cost 16p per minute inside the M25 and 53p outside. Off-peak calls cost 12p.

THE YUPPIE

Professionals could benefit from the Vodafone Business World GSM tariff with the Sharp SG400 handset, according to Carphone Warehouse. At £179.99, the package is suitable for those making lots of calls. Line rental is £25. Calls cost 25p per minute between 7.30am and 9.30pm, Monday to Saturday, and 10p at other times. Peoples Phone recommends the Budget tariff. Designed for anyone making 20 to 100 minutes of peak-rate calls per month, line rental costs £23.50. Peak-rate calls cost 41p per minute, and 18p off-peak. The £7.50 free-call allowance provides between 20 and 50 minutes of calls a day. Call Connections recommends the primetime for frequent users package. Connection costs £58.75, and monthly subscription is £29.50. Calls between 8am and 10pm, Monday to Saturday, cost 29p per minute and 12p per minute at other times.

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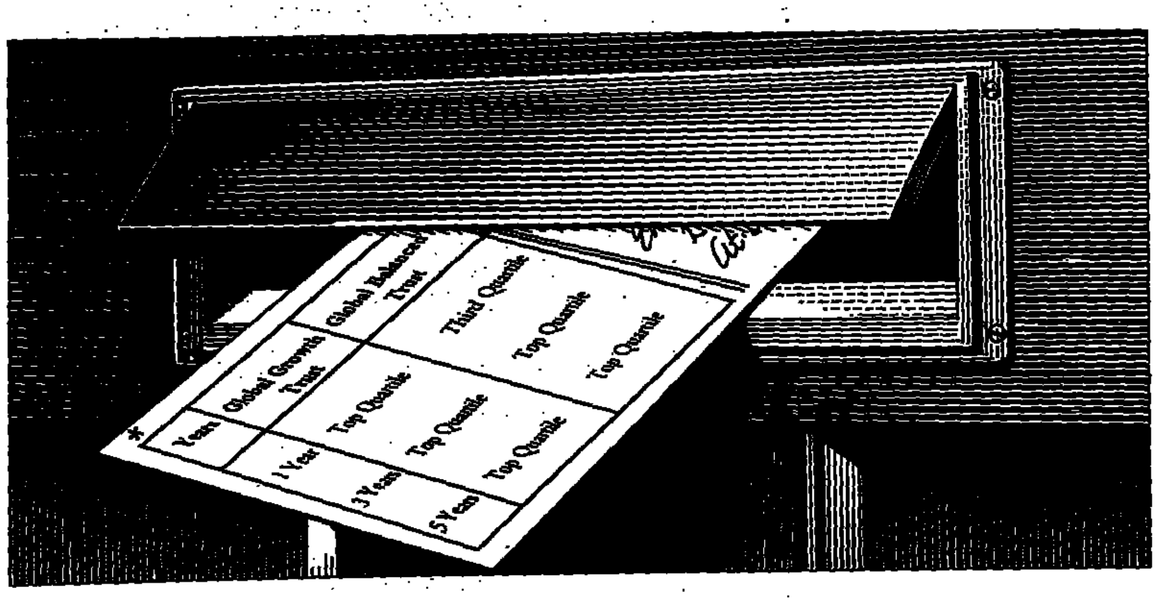

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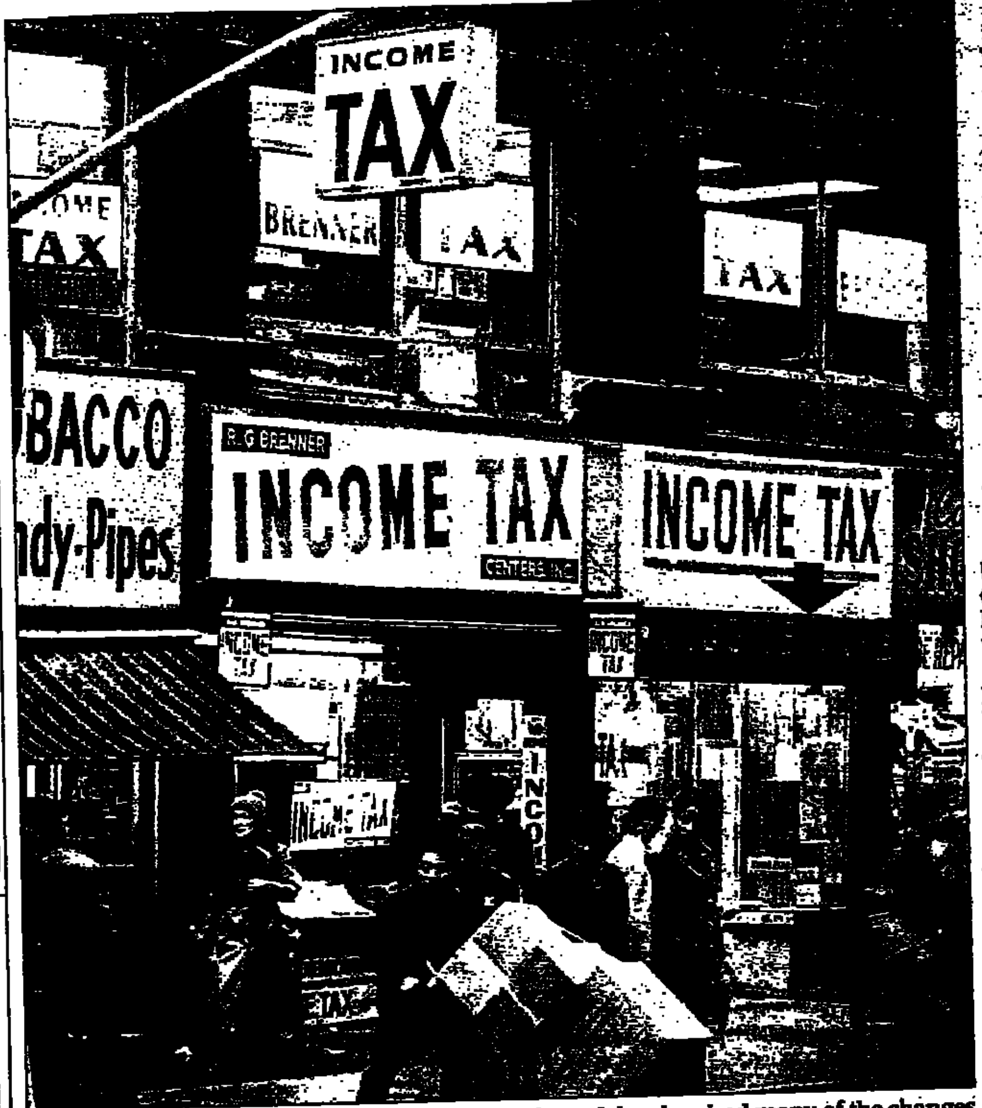
Sara McConnell answers your questions on the self-assessment system that starts in 1997



The tax system in the US, where advice offices abound, has inspired many of the changes

Taxman looks for happy returns

During the next few weeks your television screen will be invaded by an irritatingly coy-looking cartoon character in a bowler hat with a briefcase. He is the taxman and he is the Inland Revenue's way of warming you up to radical changes in the way millions of people file their tax returns and pay tax. The advertising campaign will emphasise what an improvement the changes will be, how much fairer and simpler. But, it will also stress new penalties for failing to file returns on time. So what exactly is the Revenue planning and how will it affect you?

Q I saw the Revenue advertisement but I didn't really understand what it was about.

A From April 1997, anyone who fills in a tax return will receive a newly designed form to fill in. This will be the start for most people of a new system of working out and paying personal tax, known by the Revenue as self-assessment. The advertisement you saw was the beginning of a campaign which will go on for two years until the new system is in place in April 1997.

Q What if I don't get a tax return?

A If your only income is your salary from which tax is deducted at source, you will be unaffected by the changes and your tax will be deducted at source as before. But if you have any other source of income you have to declare this separately. You also have to fill in a tax return if you are self-employed.

Q If that is the case, self-assessment will affect me. So what does it mean in practice?

A Most importantly it gives you the option of working out your own tax, starting in 1996-97. The new form will have a special section where you do your own calculations and a step-by-step guide to filling in the return. Then all you do is send in the completed return with a cheque. Much of the inspiration for this comes from the US where a similar system has operated for years.

Q I don't want to work out my own tax — I'm hopeless at that sort of thing.

A You don't have to do the actual calculations yourself. The Revenue will do them if you'd rather. But you do have to give actual figures for income, capital gains, reliefs and deductions. The present chaotic system, where the Revenue tries to guess what you owe before you file your return, will disappear. If you have to estimate a figure you have to explain why.

Q Will I have more time to file my return if I have to do all this?

A If you want the Revenue to work out your tax for you, you will have to file your completed return by September 30 after the end of the tax year. You will then have to pay your bill the following January 31. If you want to work out your own, you have until January 31 to send the completed form along with your payment. You will have more time than you are in theory allowed under the present system, which gives you just 30 days after receiving the return (although in practice you have six months after the end of the tax year). But the Revenue claims the new system will not be more difficult. In fact it should be easier. You will fill in just one return with all your income and allowances from all sources. You will file just once a year instead of at different times for different sources of income and you should only have to deal with one tax office.

Q What if I don't file my return on time?

A There will be no slipping under the new system. If you fail to file on time you face an immediate automatic penalty of £100 with a further penalty after six months. You will be charged interest plus a 5 per cent surcharge on any tax unpaid 28 days after it is due.

Q I am self-employed. Will there be any other changes to the way I am taxed?

A Yes. Your profits will be taxed in the year you earned them rather than in the year after as they are at present. If you became self-employed after April 6, 1994, your income will already be taxed in this way. Otherwise, a yearly average will be taken of the accounts for the 24 months between April 1995 and 1997, and you will be taxed on the result. You will probably have to make payments on account, on January 31 in the tax year and July 31 after the end of the tax year. Any over or under-payments will balance out when you submit your final return. The dates for submitting returns are the same as the above with the same options.

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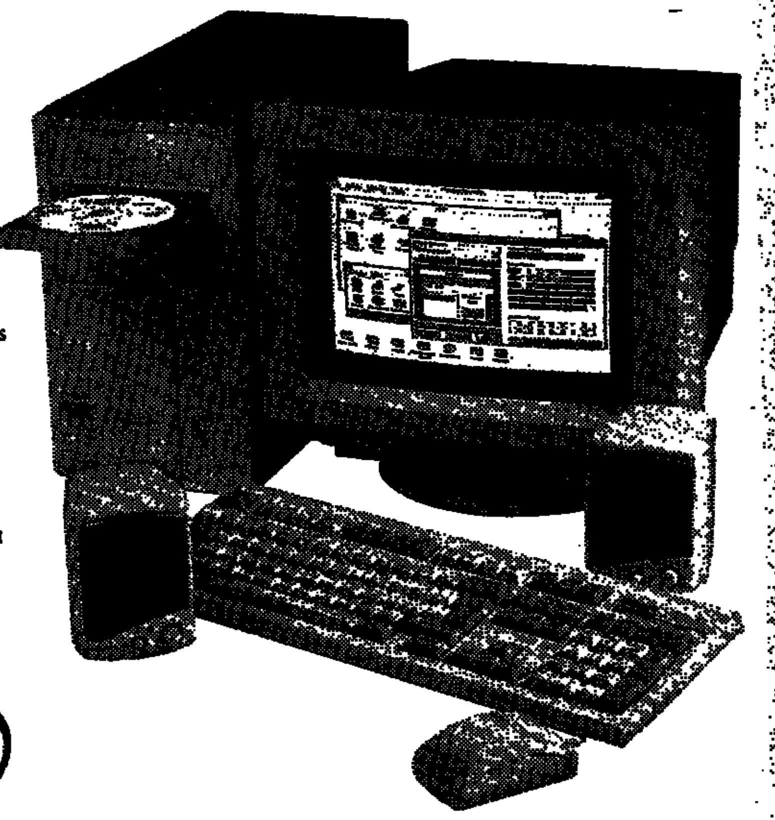

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Just like mummy. Many young children have mothers who are dependent on a car to take them to and from school

RAC goes an extra lap

Motoring organisation offers car insurance for women. **Morag Preston** investigates

Jokes about deficient women drivers are old enough to have been forgotten. Many insurers now offer discounted rates to women, based on statistics proving that they are safer drivers than their male counterparts (see box).

At most insurers, women can now expect to pay lower premiums. But the RAC has gone an extra lap, launching an insurance policy designed specifically for female motorists. The policy offers enhanced benefits for mothers, such as cover for damage of child safety seats. Loss or damage to carry-cots and prams is also covered.

Although the RAC aims to keep its rates competitive, the additional benefits are reflected in the final price, and the RAC's premiums can, at first glance, appear somewhat higher than those of other insurers. But its policy does allow for an unrestricted number of named drivers, provided they are female. And there is room for one additional named male, as long as he is a husband or live-in-partner.

Nigel Richardson, motor schemes manager for the RAC, says: "Most insurers think that motorists only seek the cheapest possible quotation irrespective of policy cover. The RAC believes that the discerning female motorist is looking for a competitive product that offers balance of price, service, security and cover."

Many women drivers have young children, and are dependent on a car to transport their children to and from school. In the event of the insured vehicle being off the road due to an accident, the RAC will cover the taxi fare for the journey. Should the children be taken to hospital as the result of a car accident, the policy provides cover for accommodation expenses to allow parents to stay near by if necessary.

Policy holders can benefit from RAC First Response, the 24-hour claims assistance service which arranges roadside recovery, alternative transport or overnight accommodation. And in the event of an accident, the RAC will get in touch with family or friends.

The Norwich Union no longer offers its Lady Motoring policy, but the extra benefits, such as breakdown cover, are now available on the company's standard policy, Club Insurance. A spokesman said: "We have introduced new charge rates which could be advantageous to women drivers."

In conjunction with a panel of insurers, the AA offers five specific lady driver policies, including Young Lady and Lady Drive-It-Policy. The following case studies, however, highlight that a specific policy does not always offer the best price.

THE [illegible]

Case one

A 30-year-old female student living in Derby. Drives a 1987 Ford Fiesta 1100 (social and domestic use). Two years no-claims bonus. Wants third party, fire and theft.

AA Link Ladies	£157.22
Direct Line	£175.28
Norwich Union Club Insurance	£180.40
RAC	£228.50

Case two

A 45-year-old office worker living in Oxford. Drives a 1990 Vauxhall Nova 1.0 litre (social, domestic use). Wants comprehensive cover with £200 excess.

AA East West Safe Driver	£112.75
Direct Line	£165.03
RAC	£285.00
Norwich Union Club Insurance	£299.95
Norwich Union, Club Gold	£382.95

ON THE ROAD

According to figures from the Department of Transport, the number of women drivers increased from 6.1 million in 1975 to 12.2 million in 1993. Male drivers were involved in 204,000 accidents that resulted in injury in 1993. In the same year, there were 95,000 accidents where female drivers were involved.

THE TIMES WEEKEND MONEY LETTERS

BT hardly a friend to the family

From Mrs Susan Miller

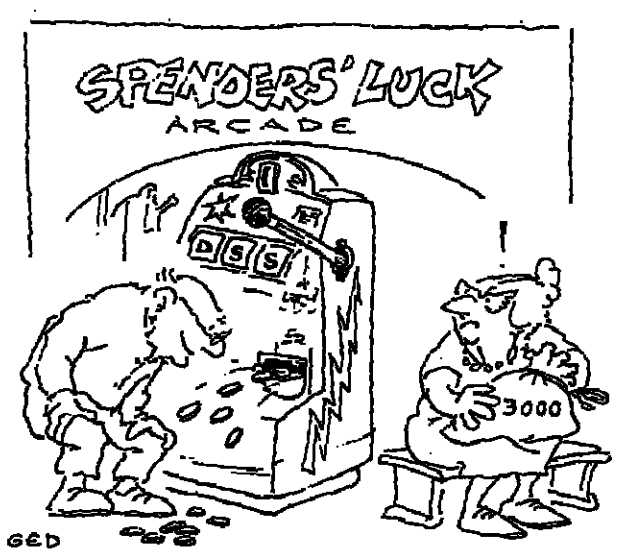
Sir, With reference to the announcement of British Telecom's apparent generosity (June 1) my "Friends and Family" option includes an Oban number to which an extra digit was added in mid-March. No discount has been credited to my account since this change.

When I phoned the helpline, I was advised that it was the customer's responsibility to notify any alterations to "Friends and Family" numbers. Even if those affected are sufficiently alert to spot the discrepancy and request an adjustment to their next account, they will still lose the interest on their overpayments.

As a result of research I recently carried out for a genealogical reference book, I know that there are at least 26 other exchanges in Strathclyde region to which digits have been added in the past nine months.

British Telecom is obviously well aware of the Scottish saying "Mony a mickle mak's a muckle".

Yours faithfully,
SUSAN MILLER
(Association of Scottish Genealogists and Record Agents),
36 Branziert Road North,
Killearn, Glasgow.



Guilty edge to gilt

From Mr Ernest A. Moritz

Sir, The timing of the Government consultation document on the Gilt-Edged Strip fills one with foreboding. It is sneaked out at Whitsun and gives a minimal consultation period until the end of June.

The contemplated tax changes are not clearly defined. It is to be hoped that the tax charge on capital gains at highest tax rate is not to be levied on existing holdings of gilt-edged securities. Investors, often pensioners, have bought them as a narrowly calculated investment, to avoid risk and stabilise income. Their real value is already being eroded by inflation. For the Government to change the goal posts on the basis of taxation, in effect retrospectively, would make them into guilt-edged securities.

Yours faithfully,
ERNEST A. MORITZ,
3 Fownhope Avenue,
Sale, Cheshire.

Savings, interest and income support

From Mrs M. B. Jenkinson

Sir, It is surprising that nobody has so far remarked on the assumption by the Department of Social Security that income support claimants, including the elderly, who have savings over £3,000 are able to obtain an income of £1 per week from every £250 that they possess.

This presupposes an astonishing rate of interest of 20 per cent on their savings. This totally unreal expectation, which has remained unchanged through many years of declining interest rates, means that those with a few savings are heavily penalised for not having spent them.

I heartily endorse Mrs Thatcher's plea (May 27) that you will give as much publicity as possible to such unfair burdens.

Yours faithfully,
M. B. JENKINSON,
19 Strachan Crescent,
Dollar, Clackmannanshire.

Water meter paid for in three years

From Mr R. G. Coleman

Sir, Your readers might be interested in our experiences as converts to a water meter (Weekend Money Letters, June 3, May 20) Thames Water installed a meter in our driveway eight weeks ago. Each week since then, on my hands and knees, I have read the meter!

My wife and I (usually the only two in the house) have used a steady 2.36 cubic metres per week. (1Cu Metre is 220 gallons). In a year, at this level, the water will cost £109. Adding £56 as the fixed charges, our total bill will be £165. We would have paid £263 under the water-rate system. The meter cost £300 to put in, so in three years we can recoup its cost, with a promising prospect after that.

Yours sincerely,
RICHARD G. COLEMEN,
52 Falstaff Avenue,
Earley,
Reading.

Pay as you wash

From Audrey Watts-Osterlyng

Sir, I have been living in Belgium for over 25 years and to my knowledge there has never been a meter replaced in my garage, nor have we seen noticeable differences to meter charges due to their bad operation. And I live in an area where lime scale is a real problem.

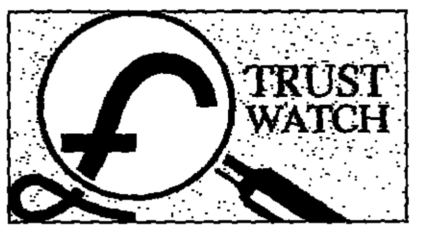
I disagree entirely with Mr Taylor. Metered water is the fairest way — if bills are properly assessed, of course. Why should I, or any other person, pay for the neighbour next door with a large family, using water ad lib on cars and lawns as well as the washing machine and dishwasher?

Water is an expensive commodity. If people are charged for what they use, they will take more care to use it in moderation.

Yours faithfully,
A. WATTS-OSTERLYNG,
Hinckaertstraat 11,
1910 Berg, Belgium.

Letters or information for Weekend Money may be sent by fax to 0171-782 5082. Letters should include a daytime telephone number. *The Times* regrets it cannot always give individual replies or advice and asks that original documents are not sent in. No legal responsibility can be accepted for advice or statements in these columns.

Open-house Lazards woos the public



You might think that the unit trust industry was already overcrowded. But Lazard Brothers, the merchant bank, takes a different view. Its unit trust division which, in the past, has only dealt with the private and institutional clients of Lazard Brothers Asset Management, has opened its doors to just about anybody. The minimum investment in its funds has been decreased from £5,000 to £1,000 (£500 on subsequent investments) although the minimum on its new Pep will be £2,000. The initial charge on its eight trusts is 5.25 per cent, relatively high in today's cost-cutting climate. The annual management charges range from 1.25 per cent to 1.5 per cent.

Although not generally available, the Lazard trusts have still been monitored by Micropal, the performance information specialist. The trusts emerge quite creditably. In surveys, measuring their performance between June 1994 and June 1995, the main UK trusts, UK Capital, UK Income and UK Income & Growth all take second place. If you had invested £100 in each, it would have grown to £114.11, £113.45 and £113.61 respectively. Over five years, between 1990 and 1995, the performance is not so impressive.

Comparable figures over five years are £159.19 (25th place), £166.60 (11th) and £157.13 (13th). UK Small Companies Growth Trust does not match up to its stablemates. Over one year, £100 invested in this trust would have shrunk to £95.14. Its five-year performance is, however, better. The £100 would have grown to £171.93. On offer, too, are US and Far Eastern trusts.

ANNE ASHWORTH

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Private Medical Insurance

Rated **Best-Value-by-far** for people over age 50

MONTHLY COSTINGS Full Refund Plans

Couple age 55 and 60		Couple age 60 and 65		Couple age 65 and 70	
Exeter Friendly	**£70.11**	**Exeter Friendly**	**£83.43**	**Exeter Friendly**	**£95.10**
Norwich Union	£79.22	Norwich Union	£104.33	BCWA	£119.74
BCWA	£83.53	BCWA	£105.76	Norwich Union	£138.47
PPP (Band C)	£93.15	WPA	£114.18	WPA	£139.34
WPA	£93.51	PPP	£118.20	PPP	£144.06
Prime Health	£95.89	Prime Health	£120.00	Prime Health	£150.04
PPP (Band B)	£114.11	Provincial	£128.67	Provincial	£150.16
BUPA	£129.91	BUPA	£164.92	BUPA	£206.83

Source: Medi-Quote 11/5/95

Exeter Friendly Society was recently rated Best-Value-by-Far for people over age 50 for two very good reasons.

1 Exeter Friendly Society rates are set to favour people of retirement age and older.

2 Exeter Friendly Society does not automatically increase rates based on your age – most other insurers do. So with The Exeter, the older you grow the more you can save.

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If you're under 80 years old phone 01392 498063 for details or complete the coupon.

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TI 8/95

50 PLAN EXETER FRIENDLY SOCIETY
Beech Hill House, Walnut Gardens, Exeter EX4 4DG

THE TIMES MONEY INFORMATION SERVICE

Tax, savings and buying a home

Tips on how best to invest your savings is given in *Making The Most Of Your Money*, published by Nicholas Brealey. Concentrating on the fundamentals of personal finance, it is written by Helen Pridham, a *Times* contributor. It simplifies issues such as raising an income from your home or opting out of the state earnings related pension scheme (Serps). The 208-page book costs £7.99, and is available from most bookshops.

■ *Don't Pay Too Much Tax If You're Employed*, in the Allied Dunbar series, explains how and when you have to pay tax and National Insurance contributions on your earnings. David Williams, the author and a professor of tax law, focuses on where gains can be made through SAYE and share options. The 168-page book costs £7.99, and is available at most bookshops.

■ The Building Societies Association has updated its leaflet *Taxation of Building Society Interest 1995-96*, which explains how building society interest is taxed and lists how societies can pay interest gross. Send a SAE to BSA/CML Bookshop, 3 Savile Row, London, W1X 1AF.

■ The Council of Mortgage Lenders has published a series of guides to help home-buyers through the mortgage maze. *How To Buy A House* and *How To Buy A House In Scotland* outline the legal steps and practical considerations. *Hints For Home Buyers* provides a brief overview in a question-and-answer format. *Taxation And The Home Buyer* explains mortgage interest tax relief. Send a SAE to BSA/CML, stating which publication is required.

■ The *Child Support Handbook*, published by the Child Poverty Action Group, explains the child support scheme and offers practical advice on how to cope. Send a cheque or PO for £7.95 (£2.65 to benefit claimants) to CPAG Ltd, 1-5 Bath Street, London EC1V 9PY.

■ Savings Certificates of the 35th Issue will mature between June 18, 1995, and March 14, 1996. National Savings will write to remind holders that after maturity certificates will no longer earn a guaranteed return, but will move on to the variable General Extension Rate.

MORAG PRESTON

SAVERS' BEST BUYS

INSTANT ACCESS ACCOUNTS	Account	Notice of term	Deposit	Rate	Interest paid
CLF Municipal Bank 0171 799 3322	Instant Acc	Instant	£500	6.00	Yly
Skipton BS 01756 700511	3 High Street	Instant	£2,000	6.25	Yly
B&W Asset 0800 303330	Instant Acc	Postal	£10,000	6.45	Yly
Northern Rock BS 0500 505000	Go Direct	Instant	£20,000	6.75	Yly

FIXED RATES	Account	Notice of term	Deposit	Rate	Interest paid
Lloyds Bank 0800 147789	High Inc Dpst	28.6.96	£1,000	7.35	F/Yly
Lloyds Bank 0800 147789	High Incm Dpst	30.6.96	£1,000	7.80	F/Yly
First National BS 01232 314050	Windfall Fund	3yr bond	£1,000	8.00	F/Yly
First National BS 01232 314050	Windfall Fund	4yr bond	£1,000	8.50	F/Yly

TESSAS (TAX FREE)	Account	Notice of term	Deposit	Rate	Interest paid
Sun Banking Corp 01438 744500		5 year	£8,400	8.00	F/Yly
CLF Municipal Bank 0171 799 3322		5 year	£50	7.50	Yly
Barclays Bank 0800 400100		5 year	£1,000	7.50	A/Yly
Holmesdale BS 01737 245716		5 year	£500	7.50	Yly

CREDIT CARDS BEST BUYS

CREDIT CARDS	Card type	Interest per month	APR%	Fee per annum
Robert Fleming S&P 0800 282101	MasterCard/Visa	1.00%	14.60%	£12
Royal Bank of Scotland 0800 161616	MasterCard	1.14%	14.50%	Nil C
Alliance & Leicester 0500 900250	Visa	1.375%	18.90%	£10 E

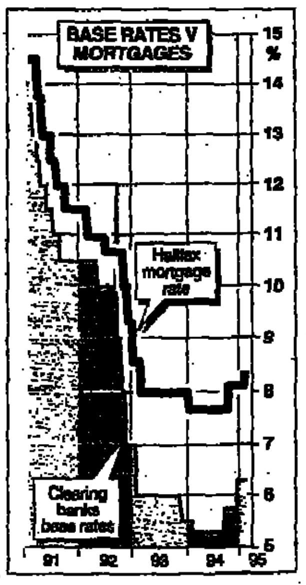
PERSONAL LOANS BEST BUYS

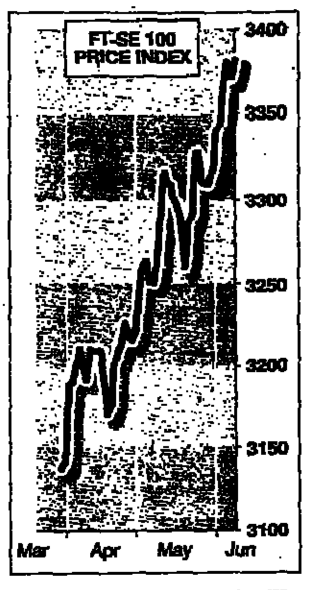
PERSONAL LOANS	APR	Monthly payment on £3,000 for 3yrs with insurance	no insurance
Clydesdale Bank 0800 240024	16.20%	£113.94	£103.33
Midland 0800 180180	15.40%	£116.54	£103.14
N&P BS 0800 808080	15.50%	£118.22	£103.29
Yorkshire Bank 0113 231 5324	15.50%	£119.34	£103.34

Nb. A - Feeder account required. In the interest paid columns, C = no interest free period D = annual fee rebated £1.5K+ charged per annum E = Annual fee waived for 1st year for new accounts F = fixed rate (all other rates are variable); OM denotes interest paid on maturity

* RATES SHOWN ARE GROSS AND SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT NOTICE
PLEASE CHECK RATES BEFORE INVESTING

Source: MoneyFacts, the Monthly Guide to Investment & Mortgage Rates (01692 500 677)





	Gross rate	At tax rates 25%	40%	Min/maximum investment £	Notice	Contact
Ordinary A/c[1]	2.00	1.50	1.20	10-10,000		01416494555
Investment A/c*	5.25	3.94	3.15	20-499	1mth	01416494555
Income Bond*	6.50	4.88	3.90	2,000-24,999	3mth	01253766151
First Opt Bond[4]	6.40	4.80	3.84	1,000-250,000		01416362558
42nd Issue Cert†	5.85			100-10,000	8day	01913864900
Children's Bond†	7.85			25-1,000	1mth	01416362635
Gen Ext Rate	3.51					
Capital Bond	7.75	5.81	4.65	100-250,000	8day	01416362603
8th Index Linked†	3.00			100-10,000	8day	01913864900
Pensnrs Bond S2	7.50	5.63	4.50	500-20,000	60day	01253766151

*[1] first £70 (£140 jt) of int tax free, inst accs for up to £100 [2] Additional hldgs up to £20,000 for reinvested proceeds †Tax free *Rates gross and vble ‡Guaranteed when held for 5 years [4] 0.3% net bonus for £20,000+ £40,000 jt in addition to S1 holdings Taxable but cred in full.*

All figures are the gross annual annuity (£100,000 purchase), guaranteed 5 years, paid monthly in advance

SINGLE LIFE (level ann)	Male: Age 60	Age 65	Age 70
Sun Life ....Level	£9,751	£10,854	£12,348
Nrch Union..........Level	£10,050	£11,005	£12,326
Royal Life ....Level	£10,047	£11,183	£12,723
Canada Life ....Level	£10,195	£11,360	£12,987
Generali ....Level	£10,285	£11,310	£12,647

SINGLE LIFE	Female: Age 60	Age 65	Age 70
Nrch Union ....Level	£9,516	£10,247	£11,391
Royal Life ....Level	£9,313	£10,149	£12,723
Canada LifeE.......Level	£9,371	£10,206	£11,431
Generali ....Level	£9,394	£10,236	£11,404
Sun Life ....Level	£8,945	£9,733	£10,885

JOINT LIFE, 2/3 WIDOWS (level annuity)	Male: Age 60 Female: Age 55	Age 65 Age 60	Age 70 Age 65
Nrwch Uni ....Level	£9,104	£9,651	£10,440
Canada Life ....Level	£8,959	£9,614	£10,543
Royal Life ....Level	£8,880	£9,496	£10,413
Sun Life ....Level	£8,562	£9,182	£10,058
Generali ....Level	£9,005	£9,621	£10,473

Source: Annuity Direct (0171 375 1175)

Compiled by: Morag Preston

GUARANTEED INCOME BONDS

ANNUAL INCOME
Rates as at June 7 1995

	Investment (£)	Company	Standard Rate (%)
1 Year	1,000	Premium Life	3.50
	5,000	AIG Life	5.20
	50,000	AIG Life	5.35
	100,000	AIG Life	5.40
2 Years	3,000	Gan Life	4.40
	5,000	AIG Life	5.40
	50,000	AIG Life	5.55
	100,000	AIG Life	5.60
3 Years	1,000	Premium Life	5.10
	5,000	Financl Asrnce	5.80
	20,000	Financl Asrnce	5.85
	100,000	Financl Asrnce	6.05
4 Years	1,000	Premium Life	5.60
	5,000	Financl Asrnce	6.05
	20,000	Financl Asrnce	6.10
	50,000	Financl Asrnce	6.15
5 Years	1,000	Premium Life	5.90
	2,000	Lincoln Ntnl	6.60
	7,500	Abbey Life	6.30
	15,000	Abbey Life	6.60
	50,000	Abbey Life	6.90

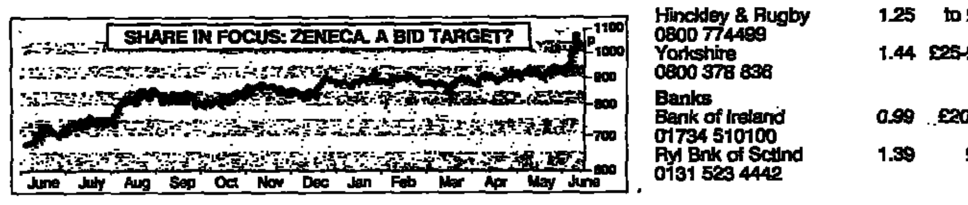
Source: Chamberlain de Broë 01225 483636. Net rates. Income and capital guaranteed.
Early surrender. Terms vary. Monthly income may be available.

PIBS

FIXED RATE	Gross coupon	Buying price	% Gross yield	Issue price	Minimum purchase amount
Birmingham Midshires	9.375%	95.52	9.804	100.17	1,000
Bradford & Bingley	11.625%	118.68	9.788	100.13	10,000
Bradford & Bingley	13.000%	132.56	9.789	100.20	10,000
Bristol & West	13.375%	134.74	9.907	100.34	1,000
Britannia	13.000%	130.86	9.924	100.42	1,000
Cheltenham & Glos	11.750%	124.51	9.421	100.96	50,000
Coventry	12.125%	122.05	9.910	100.75	1,000
First National	11.750%	110.63	10.611	100.25	10,000
Halifax	8.750%	94.44	9.260	100.62	50,000
Halifax	12.000%	125.62	9.363	100.28	50,000
Leeds Permanent	13.625%	143.82	9.453	100.00	50,000
Leeds & Holbeck	13.375%	134.38	9.942	100.23	1,000
Newcastle	10.750%	108.82	9.875	100.32	1,000
Newcastle	12.625%	128.50	9.806	100.45	1,000
Northern Rock	12.625%	128.75	9.795	100.14	1,000
Skipton	12.875%	128.36	9.943	100.48	1,000

FLOATING RATE	Gross coupon	Buying price	Issue price	Minimum purchase
First National	9.6750%	101.00	100.00	1,000
Cheshire	9.50156%	103.00	100.00	1,000

PIBS = Permanent interest-bearing shares
Source: ABN AMRO Hoare Govett — 0171 601 0101



LARGER LENDERS

Lender	Interest rate %	Loan size	Max %	Notes
Building Societies				
Natnl & Provincial 0800 808085	2.95	neg	90	5.5% discount for 12 months
Britannia 0800 526350	2.95	neg	80	5.49% discount for 12 months
Northern Rock 0800 591 500	2.49	to £150k	90	6.05% discount to 1.8.96
Banks				
Abbey National Local branch	2.99	neg	75	5.35% discount to 30.6.96
Nat West 0800 400999	3.15	£15k+	75	5.20% discount for 1 year

LARGER LOANS

Lender	Interest rate %	Loan size	Max %	Notes
Building Societies				
Scarborough 0800 590547	1.00	to £100k	95	7.45%dsc-6mnths 2%dsc-6mnths .5%dsc-12mnths
Hinckley & Rugby 0800 774499	1.25	to £150k	70	7.14% disc-9mns
Yorkshire 0800 378 836	1.44	£25-£150k	95	7% disc-6 mnths 3% disc-6 mnths
Banks				
Bank of Ireland 01734 510100	0.99	£20-145k	95	7.51%dsc-6 mns 3% dsc-6 mns
Ryl Bnk of Sctlnd 0131 523 4442	1.39	£200k	95	7.34% discount for 6 months

Lender	Interest rate %	Loan size	Max %	Notes
Building Societies				
Hinckley&Rugby 0800 774499	1.25	to 150k	70	7.14% discount for 9 mnths
Brad & Bingley 0800 252 993	3.15	£30k+	75	5.30% discount for 12 mnths
Skipton 0800 446776	2.29	to £150k	95	6% disc 5 mnths 1.75% disc 1 year
Banks				
Abbey National Local branch	3.15	neg	75	5.19% discount to 30.6.96
Lloyds Local Branch	3.60	£60K+	95	4.75% for 1 year

Larger lenders, larger loans and first-time buyers tables supplied by Blay's Guides Ltd. Further information: Blay's Guides, 01753 880482.

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UNIT-LINKED INSURANCE INVESTMENTS

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
AEGON LIFE ASSURANCE Aegon House, Lanark Square, London E14 9XS 0171 538 8800				
Balanced	475.90	500.60	+ 2.40	...
UK Equity	602.80	637.90	+ 5.30	..
Property	494.00	522.80	+ 0.40	...
Fixed Interest	329.80	349.00	+ 1.20	...
Money	255.00	269.90	+ 0.20	...
International	389.90	412.60	- 0.40	.
ABBEY LIFE Holdenhurst Road, Bournemouth BH8 8AL 01202 292373				
Property Fd Inc	277.30	291.90	+ 0.10	...
-do- Acc	523.60	551.20	+ 0.30	...
Equity Fd Inc	180.30	189.80	...	0.0
-do- Acc	240.30	253.00	- 0.10	0.0
Selective Fd	510.00	536.90	- 0.80	0.0
Money Fd	385.40	405.70	+ 0.50	...
Prop Fd Ser 4	408.00	429.50	+ 0.10	...
Equity Ser 4	227.40	239.90	- 0.10	...
Man Ser 4	677.70	713.40	- 1.50	0.0
Conv Ser 4	334.50	352.20	+ 0.40	...
Money Ser 4	334.30	351.90	+ 0.40	..
Fixed Int Ser 4	359.90	378.90	- 1.40	0.0
American Ser 4	503.70	530.30	+ 1.20	0.0
High Inc Ser 4	707.00	744.30	- 0.10	0.0
Indexed Inv Ser 4	219.80	231.40	- 1.10	0.0
Japan Ser 4	324.70	341.80	- 9.10	0.0
ALBANY LIFE 3 Darkes Lane, Potters Bar EN6 1AJ 01707 42311				
Equity Fd Acc	£15.97	£16.81	+13.00	...
European Fd Acc	387.60	407.90	+ 1.40	...
Fixed Int Acc	527.80	555.50	+ 0.70	...
Gtd Money Acc	340.50	358.40	+ 0.20	...
Intl Managed Acc	613.80	646.10	+ 0.50	...
Int Fxd Int Acc	344.20	362.20	+ 5.10	...
Japan Fund	235.20	247.50	- 1.90	...
N American Acc	331.50	348.90	+ 3.30	...
Prop Fd Acc	445.40	468.80	- 0.50	...
Multiple Inv Acc	£10.55	£11.10	+ 6.90	...
ALLIED DUNBAR ASSURANCE Swindon SN1 1EL 01793 514514				
Fxd Int Dep Acc	380.00	400.10	+ 0.30	...
Equity Acc	£14.59	£15.36	- 2.10	...
Property Acc	589.90	619.90	+ 0.10	..
Far East Acc	303.90	319.90	- 8.60	...
Managed Capital	541.50	570.00	- 1.10	...
-do- Acc	£11.18	£11.77	- 1.80	...
Overseas Acc	987.50	£10.39	+ 2.70	...
Gilt Edged Acc	501.30	527.70	- 3.20	...
Amer Equity Acc	829.20	872.90	- 0.20	...
Amer Man Acc	351.00	369.50	...	...
Amer Prop Acc	115.60	121.70	+ 0.10	...
Distribution Bonds	24.40	25.70	...	...
AXA EQUITY & LAW LIFE ASSURANCE Amersham Road, High Wycombe, Bucks 01494 463463				
Reserve Ser 6	163.40	171.90	- 0.20	...
Balced Ser 6	744.50	783.60	- 1.90	...
Opportunity Ser 6	169.10	177.90	- 0.40	...
Distribution Ser 6	101.50	106.80	+ 0.10	6.87
UK Equities Ser 6	£10.39	£10.94	+ 2.70	...
Higher Inc Ser 6	£11.04	£11.62	+ 5.90	..
North Amer Ser 6	481.70	507.00	+ 7.20	...
Far East Ser 6	559.70	589.10	-16.40	...
Europe Ser 6	399.90	420.90	...	...
Intnl Ser 6	583.70	614.40	- 3.10	...
Property Ser 6	562.10	591.60	+ 0.60	...
Fixed Int Ser 6	451.50	475.20	- 2.00	...
Ind-Lnkd Sec S6	188.40	198.30	- 0.60	...
Gteed Dep Ser 6	301.90	317.70	+ 0.20	...
BARCLAYS LIFE 252 Romford Road, London E7 9JB 0181 534 5544				
Equity Acc	881.60	928.10	+ 5.90	...
-do- Initial	572.20	602.40	+ 3.80	...
Gilt Edged Acc	397.40	418.40	- 0.60	.
-do- Initial	260.30	274.00	- 0.40	...
International Acc	400.50	421.60	- 2.10	...
-do- Initial	260.50	274.30	- 1.40	...
Managed Acc	538.10	566.50	+ 0.80	...
-do- Initial	351.40	369.90	+ 0.60	..
Money Acc	296.60	312.30	+ 0.30	...
Property Acc	303.30	319.30	+ 0.20	...
-do- Initial	197.00	207.40	...	...
America Acc	288.30	303.50	+ 0.70	...
Australia Acc	197.70	208.20	- 0.20	...
Financial Acc	351.00	369.50	+ 0.60	...
500 Accum	450.90	474.70	- 0.40	..
Japan Genl Acc	299.10	314.90	- 9.90	...
Income Acc	539.70	568.20	+ 5.00	...
Leisure Acc	246.70	259.70	- 2.30	...
Special Sits Acc	242.70	255.50	- 0.90	...
Univ Tech Acc	160.10	168.60	- 1.20	...
BLACK HORSE LIFE Mountbatten House, Chatham, Kent ME4 4JF 01634 834000				
The Managed Fd	828.90	628.40	+ 3.78	...
Income Fund	797.72	839.71	+ 7.07	..
Extra Income	725.24	763.42	+ 5.45	...
Worldwide Gth	495.05	521.11	+ 0.43	...
Balanced Fund	695.52	732.13	+ 6.04	..
Smllr Cos Recov	736.00	775.69		...
N Amer & Genrl	364.75	383.95	+ 0.15	...
Pacific Basin	428.80	451.37	- 6.49	...
German Growth	250.05	263.22	+ 2.91	.
Japan Growth	171.49	180.52	- 0.80	...
The UK Gth Fd	217.95	229.43	+ 2.16	...
Contl Euro Gth	142.57	150.08	+ 0.88	..
Property Fund	411.45	433.11	- 0.58	...
Fixed Interest	324.54	341.63	+ 2.67	...
Cash Fund	288.87	304.08	+ 0.29	...
Managed Inv	500.97	527.34	- 1.45	...
Nth Amer Recov	241.76	254.49	- 4.95	...
Abtrust Fund				
Managed Grth	509.16	535.96	- 0.24	..
BRITANNIA LIFE ASSURANCE PO Box 37, Greenock, Renfrewshire 01475 888000				
Mensured Perf	162.20	171.60	- 0.20	...
Performance Plus	163.20	172.60	+ 0.10	..
[illegible] Perf	175.20	185.30	+ 0.10	...

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
UK Opportunity	189.50	200.50	+ 1.00	...
Euro Opportunity	223.50	236.50	- 0.90	...
North Amer Opp	169.30	179.10	+ 1.90	...
Far East Opp	192.00	203.10	- 4.60	...
Gwth Prop Ser 1	127.60	134.30	...	...
Gth Prop Ser 2	179.30	189.70	+ 0.20	...
Fixed Int	197.70	209.20	- 0.20	...
Cash	159.30	166.50	+ 0.20	..
Overseas	188.00	198.90	+ 0.10	...
Formerly LAS				
Managed Fund	342.60	360.70	...	..
UK Equity	594.20	625.50	+ 4.00	...
Property	259.90	273.60	+ 0.30	...
Money Market	256.50	270.00	+ 0.20	..
Fixed Interest	299.60	315.40	+ 0.20	...
Japan	328.00	345.30	- 9.00	...
North America	158.80	167.20	+ 1.70	...
International	295.70	311.30	+ 0.20	...
European	292.70	308.20	- 1.00	...
Far East	136.40	143.60	- 3.60	...
CANADA LIFE 24 High Street, Potters Bar, Herts EN6 5BA 01707 51122				
Equity Growth	£271.80	...	...	...
Managed	334.50	352.20	+ 0.90	...
Property	237.60	250.20	+ 0.10	...
Gilt & Fxd Int	248.70	261.80	+ 0.20	..
Equity	375.10	394.90	+ 1.90	...
Cash	219.80	231.40	- 0.80	..
CLife Euro Mgd	392.20	412.90	+ 1.80	..
CLife Intl Fd	348.20	366.60	- 0.50	...
Managed Fund	730.80	769.30	+ 0.40	...
Property Fund	548.40	577.30	+ 0.60	...
Equity Fund	945.90	995.60	+ 6.00	...
Gilt Edged Fd	637.10	670.60	- 3.90	...
Deposit Fund	336.90	354.60	+ 0.20	...
Investment Fd	406.10	426.40	+ 2.70	...
International	544.40	573.00	- 5.30	..
CITY OF WESTMINSTER ASSURANCE Sentry House, 500 Avebury Blvd, Milton Keynes MK9 2NU. 01908-606101				
Property Fund	165.60	174.40	...	...
Managed Fund	626.30	659.30	+ 5.60	...
Equity Fund	363.80	383.00	+ 4.10	...
CLERICAL MEDICAL/FIDELITY INVESTMENTS Narrow Plain, Bristol BS2 0JH. 0117 9290566				
Assurance Funds				
Sapphire Mixed	293.80	309.30	- 1.00	...
Ruby	173.90	182.70	- 1.90	...
Emerald	149.70	157.60	- 0.40	..
Equity	339.50	357.40	+ 1.60	...
Property	234.30	246.70	+ 0.10	...
Gilt & Fixed Int	210.10	221.20	- 0.80	...
Indexed Secs	174.80	184.00	- 0.90	..
Cash	190.90	201.00	+ 0.20	..
Nth American	233.50	245.80	+ 0.80	...
Far East	315.00	331.60	-10.20	...
International	238.30	250.90	- 3.90	...
Special Sits	338.70	356.60	- 0.10	...
Intl Income	300.20	316.10	+ 0.80	...
American Inc	197.70	208.20	- 1.20	...
European	333.30	350.90	- 1.00	..
Japanese	126.90	133.60	- 6.80	...
SE Asia	363.70	382.90	-10.60	...
With Profits Reg	170.10	179.10	+ 0.30	...
-do- Spec	170.10	179.10	+ 0.30	...
Flexible Retirement Plans Funds				
Mixed	333.00	350.60	- 0.80	...
Equity	404.50	425.80	+ 1.90	...
Property	212.80	224.10	+ 0.20	...
Gilt & Fixed Int	263.60	277.50	- 1.20	...
Index Linked	183.80	193.50	- 1.60	...
Cash	257.00	270.60	+ 0.30	...
Nth American	292.20	307.60	+ 0.50	...
Far East Acc	294.20	309.70	-13.00	...
International Acc	302.50	318.50	- 4.30	...
Special Sits	488.50	514.30	- 0.90	..
European Flex	467.30	492.00	+ 1.10	..
COLONIAL MUTUAL GROUP Colonial Mutual House, Chatham Maritime, Kent ME4 4YY. 01634 890 000				
(Units): Key	£220.29	...	...	...
-do- Pacemaker	£319.90	...	...	...
-do- Cash	207.08	217.98	+ 0.13	..
-do- Equity	562.66	592.27	- 2.14	...
-do- Fxd Int	369.52	388.97	- 2.06	...
-do- Managed	404.00	425.26	- 1.27	...
-do- Property	299.73	315.51	+ 0.36	...
(Pens): Cash Cap	209.47	220.50	+ 0.05	..
-do- Cash Inv	312.18	328.62	+ 0.31	..
-do- Equity Cap	£14.72	£15.50	- 2.31	..
-do- Equity Inv	£21.95	£23.10	- 1.90	...
-do- Fixed Cap	403.79	425.04	- 2.20	..
-do- Fixed Inv	601.79	633.47	- 2.86	...
-do- Index Cap	208.10	219.07	- 0.75	..
-do- Index Inv	310.15	326.48	- 0.90	..
Mngd Cap	589.08	620.10	- 0.86	...
Mngd Inv	877.93	924.15	- 0.66	...
COMMERCIAL UNION St Helen's, 1 Undershaft, EC3 0171 283 7500				
Var Ann Acc (5)	£736.42	...	+ 9.97	..
Var Ann (5)	194.94	...	+ 0.89	...
Prime: Managed	412.80	434.60	- 1.40	...
Prime: UK Equity	508.40	535.20	+ 3.20	...
Prime: Int Equity	301.70	317.60	- 7.60	...
Prime: Property	254.30	267.70	+ 0.10	...
Prime Fxd Int	237.60	250.20	- 2.00	.
Prime Index-Lnk	177.20	186.60	- 0.70	...
Prime Cash	210.30	221.40	+ 0.20	...
CONFEDERATION LIFE Lytton Way, Stevenage, Herts SG1 2NN 01438 744840				
Managed Fund	£11.67	£12.28	+12.10	0.0
Equity Fund	£17.14	£18.05	+24.10	...
CROWN FINANCIAL Crown House, Woking GU21 1XW 01483 715033				
Life Mangd Acc	610.40	642.50	- 2.80	...
Life Fxd Int Acc	384.10	404.30	- 0.90	..
Life Equity Acc	862.10	907.40	- 0.90	...
Life Money Acc	305.80	321.80	+ 0.20	...

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
Life Inv Tst Acc	812.60	855.30	- 2.20	...
Life Intl Acc	499.10	525.30	- 9.40	...
Life High Inc Acc	833.60	877.40	+ 0.80	...
Life Property Acc	252.20	265.40	+ 0.20	..
Crown Brit Inv A	£14.16	...	+42.50	...
Brewin Equity	755.60	795.30	+ 3.90	...
EAGLE STAR LIFE ASSURANCE Bath Road, Cheltenham, Gloucester GL53 7LQ. 01242 221311				
Secure Fund	178.80	188.30	+ 0.10	...
Managed Fund	242.10	254.90	- 0.70	...
-do- Series 2	159.40	167.80	- 0.50	...
Adventurous Fd	195.20	205.50	- 2.20	...
-do- Series 2	150.30	158.20	- 1.60	...
Equity Mngd Fd	239.20	251.80	- 1.70	...
-do- Series 2	159.20	167.60	- 1.10	...
UK Pref Fxd Int	147.20	155.00	- 0.30	...
UK Equity Fund	169.80	178.80	+ 0.10	0.0
Property Fund	117.20	123.40	- 0.50	...
Envrnmnd Opps	170.20	179.20	+ 0.30	...
Euro Fund	193.70	203.90	- 0.60	...
North Amer Fd	202.00	212.70	+ 1.10	...
Oriental Ops	231.00	243.20	- 4.80	...
Japanese Fund	112.20	118.20	- 4.70	...
Bri & West Life	126.80	133.50	+ 0.10	...
Bri & West Pen	144.40	152.10	+ 0.20	...
EAGLE STAR/MIDLAND 60 St Mary Axe, London EC3. 0171 929 1111				
Eagle/Mid Uts	269.80	279.60	+ 1.50	3.27
FRIENDS' PROVIDENT Castle Street, Salisbury, Wilts SP1 3SH 01722 413366				
Managed (Mixd)	313.80	330.40	- 0.20	...
UK Equity	420.20	442.40	+ 1.20	..
Stewardship	360.60	379.60	+ 0.20	...
Overseas Equity	285.30	300.40	- 2.30	..
North American	153.10	161.20	- 0.30	...
Pacific Basin	163.40	172.00	- 3.60	...
European	230.20	242.40	...	..
Property	199.70	210.30	+ 0.20	.
Fixed Interest	239.80	252.50	- 0.90	.
Index Linked	174.30	183.50	- 0.80	...
Cash	204.20	215.00	+ 0.10	..
FP Life Assurance ex NM				
Fixed Interest	556.30	585.50	- 0.30	...
Managed	712.20	749.60	+ 0.70	...
Deposit	351.30	369.70	- 0.10	...
Property	490.50	516.30	+ 0.60	...
American	439.70	462.80	+ 6.50	...
Australian	508.50	535.20	+ 1.70	..
European	557.40	586.70	- 3.80	...
Income Acc	787.30	828.70	+17.20	...
-do- Dist	457.00	481.00	- 0.50	5.16
International	314.10	330.60	- 3.40	...
Japan Smaller	431.50	454.20	-14.60	...
Singapore & Mal	393.60	414.30	-21.90	..
Smaller Cos	416.70	438.60	- 2.10	...
Tokyo Fund	637.80	671.30	-24.40	...
UK Equity	600.10	631.60	+ 1.00	.
CCM Vangd Mg	773.50	814.20	+ 4.00	...
GT UNIT MANAGERS LTD Alban Gate, 14th Flr, 125 London Wall, Lond EC2Y 5AS. 0171 710 4567				
GT Plan Far East	302.00	317.90	- 8.90	...
GT Plan Wwide	469.20	493.90	- 1.50	...
GAN LIFE & PENSIONS Gan House, Harlow, Essex CM20 2EW. 01279 626262				
Portfolio Acc	707.00	707.00	+ 3.00	..
-do- Inv A	706.90	744.30	+ 3.10	...
UK Equity	423.90	446.40	+ 3.20	..
Gilt Plus	208.60	219.70	- 0.90	...
Managed	314.80	331.50	- 1.40	..
GENERAL ACCIDENT 2 Rougier St, York YO1 1HR. 01904 629982				
Managed	216.30	227.60	- 0.50	...
Unitised Profit	141.50	148.90	+ 0.30	..
UK Equity	295.70	311.20	+ 0.90	..
Fixed Int	199.00	209.40	- 1.90	..
Index-Linked	172.20	181.20	- 0.40	...
Cash Deposit	177.20	186.40	+ 0.10	...
Property	191.40	201.40	- 0.20	...
International	175.80	185.00	- 2.30	...
American	168.60	177.40	+ 1.40	...
Japan	227.30	239.20	- 7.60	...
Japan Smllr Cos	232.80	244.90	- 7.80	...
European	190.70	200.70	- 1.20	...
Pacific Fund	286.00	301.00	- 4.30	...
Cmty Life	129.90	136.60	+ 0.90	..
For General Portfolio see Gan				
GUARDIAN ROYAL EXCHANGE Royal Exchange London EC3. 0171 283 7101				
Ass Prop Bds	827.70	862.20	...	...
Managed Initial	468.30	492.90	- 1.30	...
-do- Acc	675.50	711.00	- 1.50	..
Equity Initial	705.40	742.60	- 2.60	...
-do- Acc	£10.17	£10.71	+ 4.20	...
Fixed Int Initial	451.70	475.50	- 7.00	...
-do- Acc	651.60	685.90	- 9.80	...
Intl Initial	451.80	475.50	- 3.20	
-do- Acc	651.80	685.90	- 4.30	...
Nth Amer Initial	182.40	192.00	+ 2.20	...
-do- Acc	239.50	252.10	+ 3.10	...
Pacific Initial	232.40	244.60	- 6.30	...
-do- Acc	302.20	318.10	- 4.00	..
Property Initial	180.90	190.40	...	...
-do- Acc	260.80	274.50	...	...
Index-Lnkd Initl	164.50	173.20	- 2.60	..
-do- Acc	216.00	227.40	- 3.30	...
Deposit Initial	199.30	209.80	+ 0.20	...
-do- Acc	287.50	302.60	+ 0.40	..
Euro Initial	109.10	114.90	- 0.90	...
-do- Acc	132.40	139.40	- 1.00	..
HALIFAX LIFE LTD PO Box 285, York YO1 1YB 01904 611110				
Life Funds				
Foundation	25.66	27.01	+ 0.04	...
Balanced	26.18	27.56	- 0.39	..
Opportunity	26.07	27.44	+ 0.04	..
Deposit	24.06	25.32	+ 0.02	..
Pension Funds				
Foundation	25.95	27.31	+ 0.06	..
Balanced	26.44	27.83	- 0.08	.

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
Opportunity	26.28	27.66	+ 0.07	..
Deposit	24.19	25.46	+ 0.03	...
HAMBRO ASSURED Harbour House, Portway, Preston, Lancs PR2 2PR. 01772 840000				
Managed	173.30	182.40	+ 0.60	...
-do- Pens	213.50	224.70	+ 1.00	...
UK Equity	178.00	187.30	+ 1.20	...
-do- Pens	204.60	215.30	+ 1.80	...
International	152.20	160.20	...	...
-do- Pens	166.03	174.70	...	...
Deposit	141.80	149.20	+ 0.10	...
-do- Pens	168.80	177.60	+ 0.20	...
HENDERSON ADMINISTRATION 3 Finsbury Avenue, London EC2M 2PA 0171 638 5757				
UK Equity Fd	369.30	392.90	+ 2.20	...
North America	354.00	376.70	+ 0.90	...
Far East Fund	570.70	607.20	- 8.80	...
Global Managed	470.00	500.10	- 0.40	...
Deposit Fund	232.30	244.60	- 0.80	...
Prime Residential	139.30	146.70	...	...
European Fund	270.60	287.90	+ 0.30	...
Fixed Interest	62.10	66.10	- 0.10	...
HILL SAMUEL LIFE NLA Tower, Addiscombe Road, Croydon 0181 686 4355				
Security Fund	538.50	569.90	+ 3.10	...
British Fund	550.80	582.90	+ 2.50	...
International	554.20	586.50	- 6.20	...
Dollar Fund	401.20	424.60	+ 1.20	..
Capital Fund	497.80	526.80	- 2.10	...
Income Fund	719.50	761.40	- 1.80	..
Property Series A	469.50	496.90	...	4.50
Property Units	776.20	815.10	...	...
Financial Fund	614.20	650.00	- 1.40	...
Managed Ser A	563.30	596.00	+ 1.80	...
Managed Units	£10.09	£10.63	+ 3.40	...
High Yield Fund	668.60	707.60	+ 0.50	...
Money Series A	294.10	311.30	+ 0.40	...
Money Units	390.40	411.00	+ 0.40	...
Equity Fund	641.10	678.50	+ 3.80	...
Fixed Interest	374.80	396.70	- 6.30	...
Indexed Secs	192.90	204.20	- 2.50	...
European Fund	761.90	806.30	+ 0.40	...
Natural Res	283.60	300.20	- 1.50	...
Far East Fund	638.70	675.90	-20.40	...
Smaller Cos	509.00	538.70	- 0.70	...
Special Sits	467.80	495.10	- 1.10	...
Man Currency	267.60	283.20	...	...
Japanese Tech	263.30	278.70	- 9.40	...
US Smaller Cos	266.80	282.40	+ 6.60	...
IRISH LIFE ASSURANCE Irish Life Centre, Victoria Street, St Albans, Herts AL1 5TF. 01727 48181				
Global Managed	589.90	620.90	+ 4.20	...
Global Property	301.20	317.10	...	..
Global Fixed Int	533.00	561.10	+ 1.30	...
Global Equity	634.30	667.70	+ 8.00	...
Global Cash	217.70	229.20	+ 0.20	...
LAURENTIAN LIFE Barnwood, Gloucester GL4 7RZ 01452 371371				
Property	490.60	516.40	- 0.40	...
Managed	425.60	448.00	- 0.90	...
American	426.90	449.30	+ 0.70	...
UK Equity Fd	464.50	488.90	+ 0.10	...
Japan	180.60	190.10	- 6.60	...
Index-Lkd	192.60	202.70	- 0.10	...
High Yield	884.80	931.30	+ 3.30	...
Money	410.70	432.30	+ 0.30	...
International	393.90	414.60	- 3.30	...
Henderson Active	206.50	217.30	...	...
Perpetual Active	333.80	351.30	+ 2.30	...
Growth Acc	666.60	701.60	- 1.10	...
Gilt Edged	448.90	472.50	- 0.80	.
European	164.60	173.20	+ 0.30	...
Far East	210.30	221.30	- 3.00	...
LEGAL & GENERAL UNIT ASSURANCE 2 Montefiore Road, Hove, Sussex BN3 1SE 01273 874000				
B Soc Lnkd Ink	134.80	141.90	...	...
-do- Acc	189.40	199.40	+ 0.10	...
Brit Opps Inc	147.00	154.80	+ 0.40	...
-do- Acc	185.30	195.10	+ 0.50	...
Cash Initial	167.90	176.80	+ 0.20	...
-do- Acc	293.40	308.90	+ 0.30	...
Equity Initial	674.70	710.30	+ 2.50	...
-do- Acc	£11.79	£12.41	+ 4.30	...
Fixed Initial	350.00	368.50	- 1.30	...
-do- Acc	611.60	643.80	- 2.50	...
Index-Lnkd Gilt	137.30	144.60	- 0.80	...
-do- Acc	204.80	215.60	- 1.10	...
Intl Initial	313.10	329.60	- 5.30	..
-do- Acc	538.70	567.10	- 9.10	...
Managed Initial	478.30	503.40	- 1.10	...
-do- Acc	835.60	879.60	- 1.80	...
Property Initial	219.10	230.70	+ 1.20	...
-do- Acc	383.00	403.30	+ 2.10	..
LINCOLN NATIONAL 1 Olympic Way, Wembley, Middx HA9 0NB 0181 902 8876				
Equity Units	£133.96	...	- 0.64	...
Property Units	£27.04	...	- 0.14	...
Bal Bd Exec Unit	£67.85	£71.42	+ 0.02	...
2nd Equity Acc	657.00	691.60	+ 4.30	...
2nd High Inc Ac	634.00	666.90	- 1.90	..
2nd Property Acc	247.90	261.00	- 1.40	...
2nd Mngd 2 Acc	185.30	195.10	- 0.40	...
2nd Mngd 3 Acc	475.60	500.60	+ 0.10	...
2nd Mngd 4 Acc	235.30	247.70	- 0.20	...
2nd Deposit Acc	290.40	305.70	+ 0.10	...
2nd Gilt Acc	313.40	329.90	- 1.00	...
2nd Amer Acc	716.40	754.10	-11.50	...
2nd Intl Mny Acc	285.00	300.00	+ 0.30	...
2nd Index Acc	216.00	227.30	- 0.60	...
2nd Far East Acc	432.50	455.20	-11.00	...
2nd Global Acc	173.40	182.50	- 1.20	...
2nd Euro Acc	170.50	179.50	+ 0.20	...
2nd Japan Acc	180.40	189.90	- 7.20	...
2nd Int Cr Bd Acc	173.80	182.90	- 0.40	...
2nd Cap Gth Acc	133.30	140.40	+ 0.20	..

Widespread losses

TRADING PERIOD: Settlement takes place ten business days after the day of trade. Changes are calculated on the previous day's close, but adjustments are made when a stock is ex-dividend. Changes, yields and price/earnings ratios are based on middle prices.

BANKS

1995 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
43	413	Abbey Nat	476	−17½	4.7	9.6
15	250	Allied Irish	300	−2	4.6	8.7
17	198	Aus New Z	221	−5	5.9	7.7
307½	2531¼	Bank Americat	3280	−75	...	...
32½	191½	Bank Scotlandt	222	−3½	3.3	9.8
17	557½	Barclays	675	−8	3.9	7.3
57	288	Bk of Irelandt	353	−1	4.6	•
34	418	Cater Allen	523	...	6.8	10.9
75	2450	Citicorp	3287½	−75	...	...
30	219	Close Bros	278	...	3.6	12.6
£32¾	£129¾	Commerzbk	£151½	+140¾	3.6	...
75	993¾	Dai Ichi Kan Y	1164¾	−18¾	0.5	...
321½	2850	Deutsche Bk	3221½	+31¼	2.3	...
31¼	612½	Espirito Santo	734¾	−6¾	11.1	•
11	1192¾	Fuji Bank Y	1443¾	−28	0.4	...
80	395	Gerrard Nat	480	−1	6.5	13.3
58	182	Hambros	187	+1	5.1	19.6
64½	589	HSBC	819	−24	4.1	11.7
54	578	HSBC HK	816	−18	4.1	11.7
33	228	Irish Perm	328	−3	2.3	7.6
36	363	Joseph (L)	363	...	6.1	10.6
24	85	King Shaxson	120	−2	8.4	11.9
30	529	Kleinwort Ben	699	+22	3.9	12.3
98	530	Lloyds	645	−9	5.0	10.9
32	478	Nat Aust Bk	530	−6	6.7	8.8
75	454	Nat West	557	−4	4.6	9.4
300	2150	Ottoman Bank	3000	...	5.3	4.2
37	51	Rea Bros	51	...	2.6	10.7
38	373½	Ryl Bk Scott	423½	+2½	4.2	10.2
145	906¾	Schroders	1103	−22	1.5	15.7
76¾	623¾	Schroders N/V	885	−25	1.9	12.7
98	81	Singer & Fried	95	...	4.6	9.8
60	346	Stand Chart	350	−5	2.9	10.8
68	217	TSB	252	−6	4.5	10.8
05	70	Union	93	...	4.8	...
83	655	Warburg SGt	753	...	3.7	...
118¾	9043¾	Wells Fargo	£111½	−325	2.6	...
257¼	211	Westpac	223¼	−3½	2.4	•
250	200	[illegible]	245	...	8.0	•

BREWERIES

1995 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
82	143	Ascot Hldgs	179	...	...	•
67	487	Bass†	594	−2	4.6	14.1
84	239	Boddington	283	...	3.9	14.6
77	137	Burtonwood Brw	146	+2	4.4	12.2
70	137	Eldridge P 'A'	170	+1	3.2	20.4
61	51	Fosters Brewing	53	−1	5.1	14.0
83	335	Fuller Sm 'A'	363	...	2.8	15.8
83	402	Greenalls Grp†	480	−2	3.5	13.9
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]

BUILDING & CONSTRUCT

[illegible]

BUILDING MATERIALS

[illegible]

BUSINESS SERVICES

[illegible]

CHEMICALS

[illegible]

DISTRIBUTORS

1995 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
118	91	ABI Lds	113	...	4.6	12.6
585	535	Adam & Harvey	538	...	3.6	6.7
21	16	Alexanders	19	...	6.6	9.1
113	88	Appleyard	108	...	5.7	13.2
4¾	3¾	Ass Br Eng	3¾	...	1.7	26.8
597	518	BSS Group	583	...	3.8	20.9
24½	19	Bearing Power	19	...	6.6	9.4
28	23	Bogod 'A'	25	...	3.5	10.5
413	345	Bunzl†	412	...	4.0	19.6
21	10¾	Bridgend Gp	18½	...	1.5	...
98	85	Brit Fittings	85	...	4.4	13.1
48	28	Brown & Tawse	#42	...	...	...
39	33	Burndene	38	...	6.3	-
279	215	Caffyns	230	...	6.4	-
88	66	Central Mtr	74	...	4.6	49.3
49	35	Cook (DC)	47	...	3.1	14.4
293	220	Cowie	293	+1	3.9	12.6
155	125	Dag Motors	152½	...	5.7	13.4
598	558	[illegible]	558	...	1.5	13.8
409	408	Diploma†	407	...	3.5	16.2
626	472	Electrocomponents	600	+2	2.4	21.6
182	163	Electron House	181	...	2.6	15.2
282	234	Ellis & Everard	265	...	3.7	17.8
115	87	European Mtr	111	...	5.1	12.1
417	364	Evans Halshaw	416	−1	4.6	12.3
641½	512	Farnell Elect†	608	−½	1.8	•
60	48	Fife Indmar	55	...	8.8	9.3
24¾	16	Gardiner	22	...	4.5	10.1
29¾	18	[illegible]	24	...	...	26.5
80	61	Gowrings	78	−2	3.7	14.4
73	62	Halkin Hldgs	67	...	1.9	12.8
172	148	Harris (Philip)	164	...	5.2	14.4
421	358	Henlys	420	...	2.5	19.5
99	81	Holders Tech	98	...	7.7	28.4
129	88	ISA Intl	123	...	1.9	16.0
430	274	Inchcape†	316	...	5.9	11.9
66	53	Jacks (Wm)	65	...	...	14.8
167	142	Kwik-Fit	160	...	3.4	15.8
370	277	Lex Service	370	+4	4.7	19.7
195	164	Lookers	172	...	5.6	9.4
16	14	Malaya Gp	15	...	3.3	35.7
8¾	5	Middlesex Gt	6½	...	1.0	•
435	330	[illegible]	378	...	0.8	18.5
155	78	Northamber	155	+9	1.0	65.8
155	147	PCT†	147	...	6.5	•
285	225	Pendragon	282	−1	3.9	15.2
181	128	Perry Gp†	148	...	6.3	•
140	126	Quicks Group†	140	...	4.9	13.3
171	160	REA†	165	...	3.0	18.6
3¾	2¾	Reece	2¾	...	...	...
6¾	2½	Ross Gp	6	...	4.2	...
55	37½	SEP Ind	53¾	...	2.8	17.6
59	38	TLS Range	53	−1	9.6	14.8
268	226	Time Products	258	...	2.9	18.9
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]

DIVERSIFIED INDUSTRIALS

[illegible]

ELECTRICITY

[illegible]

ELECTRONIC & ELECT

[illegible]

ENGINEERING

[illegible]

ENGINEERING, VEHICLES

[illegible]

FOOD MANUFACTURERS

[illegible]

HEALTHCARE

[illegible]

HOUSEHOLD GOODS

[illegible]

INSURANCE

[illegible]

INVESTMENT TRUSTS

[illegible]

1995 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
120¾	110	Klnwt End	120½	...	0.3	...
81¾	73	Klnwt Euro Pvt	80¾	−½	...	...
27½	21½	Klnwt Euro Wts	25½	...	...	...
90	74	Klnwt H Inct	89	−1	11.2	...
249½	213	Klnwt O'seas	240	−4	1.8	...
131	111	Klnwt Smlr	131	...	2.1	...
125½	71	Latin American	109½	−2¾	...	...
838	718	Law Debenture	836	...	3.1	...
106	93	Lazard H Inc	93	−½	8.8	...
95	77	Lloyds Sm Cap	95	...	17.2	...
29½	26	Lloyds Sm Div	26½	...	3.8	...
122	102	Lloyds Sm Pig	121	−1	4.5	...
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]

LEISURE & HOTELS

[illegible]

1995 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
124	105	First Choice	115	−1	4.2	30.1
306	262	First Leisure	303	−1	2.9	19.3
251½	224½	Forte†	229	−4	4.1	23.5
175	133	Friendly Hotels†	135	+2	5.3	...
616	476	Granada	605	−9	2.2	17.9
125	108	Groupe Chez Ger	125	...	0.8	17.3
38	16	Hi-Tec Sports	27½	...	7.3	...
135	96	Hornby	109	...	5.7	20.4
209¾	158¼	Jurys Hotel	206½	+3	3.5	18.6
21	14¾	Kunick†	18¼	−¼	5.1	19.9
325	264	London Clubs	325	+2	5.2	...
187½	161	Ladbroke	179	...	4.2	54.4
64	41	[illegible]	48	...	0.3	...
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]

MEDIA

1995 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
370	335	Abbott Mead†	352	−2	2.8	23.4
310	276	Adscene	295	...	3.0	18.5
29½	22	Aegis Gp	28	...	...	11.2
7¾	1¾	Allied Radio	2¼	+¼	...	30.4
13	11	BBB Design	11	...	...	...
215	156	Barbour Index	215	...	5.0	19.2
6¾	4¾	Birkdale	5	...	...	...
335	316	Black (A&C)†	320	...	5.5	11.3
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]

MINING

[illegible]

OIL & GAS

[illegible]

OTHER FINANCIAL

1995 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
98	75	BWD	88	...	6.3	8.0
133	126	Baltic Plc	131	...	2.9	7.1
78	50	Berry Bch Nbt	52	...	6.2	18.0
180	148	[illegible]	157	...	...	...
154	112	Brewin Dolphin	152		4.1	11.6
664	625	Caledonia	645		3.2	17.6
2400	2125	[illegible]	2281¼		2.0	•
22½	16¼	[illegible]	17½		3.6	18.6
191	142	Cattles	185		3.9	16.3
35	21	[illegible]	21		...	48.4
17	13½	EFG†	14½	...	4.3	8.4
79	61	EFT Group	79		2.8	13.6
775	707	EFM	728		4.1	14.9
186	152	Exco	155	−1	4.8	7.9
87	57	First Nat Fin	85		2.2	54.3
185	161	Gartmore	177¼	−1½	3.9	14.8
379	255	Govett	270		6.7	4.5
1148	963	Henderson Ad	1061	−2	5.5	•
225	162½	Investcorp	222½		2.7	19.5
49	43	Investment Co.	46		8.3	•
231	200¾	Ivory Sime	209¾		4.5	16.3
248½	196½	Jardine Strat	219¾	−4½	4.3	7.0
144	93	Johnson Fry	103	...	2.4	5.8
175	131	Lon Forfaiting	174		6.7	15.1
186	116	Lon Scot Fin	136		3.8	17.8
175	153	Man ED & F	157	−1	6.8	8.6
1143	953	M & G	1104	−1	3.6	19.1
272	224	MAM	264		3.7	13.3
105	68	MAI 5.5% Cv Pft	97½	−½	7.6	...
908	680	MAI†	824	+5	3.9	-
130	95	Nat Home Loan	108		...	3.8
1500	1150	Perpetual	1390		2.3	14.7
649½	515	Provident	643	−1	4.0	15.8
310	245	Rathbone Bs	305		3.7	•
28¾	24½	Rutland Tst	25		4.8	11.3
324	281	S & U†	298	−5	5.2	9.0
240	135	Sharelink	233		4.8	8.7
133	105	SJP Capital	115	−5	3.3	•
499	410	Smith New Crt	420	−1	3.0	4.8
78	60	Towry Law	81		8.4	14.5
26	11	Tea Hldgs	11½	−1½	1.1	18.9
26	21	Western Selectn	21	...	1.5	.

PHARMACEUTICALS

1995 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
593	425	Brit Biotech	513	−2	.	.
345	103	Cantab Pharms	138		..	.
308	233½	Celltech	304	−1		
144	82½	Chiroscience	141	+1		...
46	31	Cortecs	45			
194	103	Fisons†	187	−6	2.9	..
769	587	Glaxo Wellcome	734	−15	4.8	16.8
127	100	[illegible]	125	−1	5.6	16.0
264	162	Medeva	245	−4	1.7	16.8
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]

PRINTING & PAPER

[illegible]

PROPERTY

[illegible]

RETAILERS, FOOD

[illegible]

RETAILERS, GENERAL

[illegible]

1995 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
10	7	ERA Gp	7¾	..	..	12.1
161	98	Essex Furn	121	..	4.8	13.5
236	154	Etam†	154	−22	6.2	12.6
395	320	Fine Art Devt	391	...	4.9	•
66	37	[illegible]	45	...	...	20.9
116	81	Flying Flowers	112	−2	2.1	14.6
285	256	French Conn	291	...	...	12.9
275	207	Furst Group†	264	...	2.8	22.8
59	46	[illegible]	58	..	3.8	14.7
152	112	Goldsmiths Gp†	152		5.5	13.8
637	508	GUS	615	−9	2.7	17.7
242	179	Hamleys	242	+3	3.6	11.4
56	25	Hampden Gp†	54		2.8	14.6
175	142	Hse of Fraser†	151	−4	4.8	19.4
83	67	Hughes (LH)†	67	−2	4.8	•
328	229	JJB Sports†	328		2.3	•
468	378	Kingfisher†	457	−3	4.2	14.5
150	95	[illegible]	125	...	1.5	35.6
315	208	Liberty†	263	+15	3.4	31.7
305	184	Lloyds Chem†	219	−1	5.5	7.1
134	106	MFI	117	−4	4.5	14.6
436¼	371	Marks Spencer†	413	−6½	3.1	18.3
558	500	Menzies (John)	558	+6	2.8	13.2
480	338	Moss Bros†	460	...	3.3	15.4
348	252	Next†	327		3.4	17.2
54	27	OEM	48		...	...
95	68	[illegible]	92		1.4	14.4
93	73	Partridge Fine	73	...	5.7	8.2
155	107	QS Hldgs†	125		4.8	15.9
19	7	[illegible]	15½		...	...
131	113	[illegible]	127		4.8	12.9
113½	96	Sears†	116	−2	4.5	16.0
24	11¾	Signet Group	14¾		...	...
484	327½	Smith WH	351	−1	5.6	18.8
889	638	Sotheby's	825	...	3.2	39.2
279	209	Storehouse	278		2.9	18.4
206	168	Stylo	187	−2	4.9	10.4
178	143	T & S Stores	177		4.6	•
125	98	Tie Rack	124		2.3	13.0
4¾	1	Upton & South	2		...	...
519	424	Vendome	506	+1	2.3	23.1
35	24	WEW Group†	29	−1	3.0	24.5
67	57	Wld of Leather	57	...	3.3	12.1
181	155	Wyevale	180	..	3.4	17.3

SPIRITS, WINES & CIDERS

1995 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
562	491	Allied Domecq†	540	−5	5.5	12.7
454	390	Bulmer (HP)	443	+3	3.1	23.9
121	99	Burn Stewart	104	..	6.0	21.4
410	352	Grand Met	400	−7	4.5	18.1
489	404	Guinness	469	−4	3.7	14.7
445	337	Highland Dist	362	−2	2.8	16.3
217	175	Macallan-Glen	188	+3	0.8	45.6
710	600	[illegible]	655	..	2.0	29.9
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]

SUPPORT SERVICES

[illegible]

TELECOMMUNICATIONS

[illegible]

TEXTILES & APPAREL

[illegible]

TRANSPORT

[illegible]

WATER

1995 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
550	449	Anglian	540	−2	6.2	8.0
355	295	Mid Kent Hdgs	354	...	4.5	•
616	483	North West	582½	−3½	4.7	8.0
932	676	Northumbrian	923	+8	3.9	7.8
585	475	Severn Trent	584	+1	5.0	9.7
2225	1856	South Staffs†	2185	+6	3.9	•
549	459	South West	523	+3	6.5	10.4
656	517	Southern	649	+5	4.6	9.4
519	456	Thames	499	−3	6.6	8.8
710	567	Welsh	683	+10	6.3	9.7
319	252	Wessex	303	−3	5.0	7.9
607	472	Yorkshire	596	+5	6.0	9.3

Source: Fastel

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BRITISH FUNDS

SHORTS (under 5 years)

1995 High	Low	Stock	Price £	+/-	Int yld %	Grs red yld
101⅛	[illegible]	Exch 10¼% 1995	100[illegible]	−[illegible]	10.20	6.27
104⅞	102¾	Treas 12¾% 1995	102¾		12.42	6.41
106⅞	104[illegible]	Treas 14% 1996	104[illegible]	−[illegible]	13.40	6.52
108⅞	107⅝	Treas 15¼% 1996	107⅝	−[illegible]	14.20	6.58
109⅞	107⅝	Exch 13¼% 1996	105[illegible]	−[illegible]	12.52	6.65
107¼	105[illegible]	Conv 10% 1996	103[illegible]	−¼	9.62	7.02
104[illegible]	103[illegible]	Treas 7% 1997	99[illegible]	−[illegible]	7.05	7.32
100¼	97⅝	Treas 13¼% 1997	108[illegible]	−[illegible]	12.15	7.22
109[illegible]	105[illegible]	Exch 10½% 1997	105⅞	−[illegible]	9.99	7.23
105[illegible]	104[illegible]	Treas 8¾% 1997	102[illegible]	−[illegible]	8.52	7.41
103[illegible]	100[illegible]	Exch 15% 1997	116[illegible]	−[illegible]	12.92	7.47
117[illegible]	114[illegible]	Exch 9¾% 1998	105[illegible]	−[illegible]	9.27	7.55
105[illegible]	102¼	Treas 7¼% 1998	99[illegible]	−[illegible]	7.30	7.56
100¼	99[illegible]	Treas 6¾% 1995-98	97[illegible]	−[illegible]	6.89	7.59
99[illegible]	94[illegible]	Treas 14% 1998-01	116⅞	−[illegible]	12.02	7.64
117¼	114[illegible]	Treas 15½% 1998	122[illegible]	−[illegible]	12.63	7.61
124⅛	120⅝	Exch 12% 1998	112[illegible]	−[illegible]	10.64	7.72
114[illegible]	108[illegible]	Treas 9½% 1999	105[illegible]†	−[illegible]	9.00	7.75
108[illegible]	100⅞	Exch 12¼% 1999	114⅝	−[illegible]	10.89	7.77
116[illegible]	111[illegible]	Treas 10½% 1999	109[illegible]	−[illegible]	9.62	7.80
110[illegible]	105[illegible]	Treas 6% 1999	93[illegible]	−[illegible]	6.39	7.81
95¼	89[illegible]	Conv 10¼% 1999	108[illegible]	−[illegible]	9.48	7.85

MEDIUMS (5 to 15 years)

1995 High	Low	Stock	Price £	+/-	Int yld %	Grs red yld
106⅞	100[illegible]	Conv 9% 2000	104[illegible]	−[illegible]	8.60	7.84
102[illegible]	98[illegible]	Treas 8% 2000	100[illegible]	−[illegible]	7.94	7.85
125[illegible]	117	Treas 13% 2000	121⅛†	−1[illegible]	10.73	7.91
111[illegible]	104[illegible]	Treas 10% 2001	109¼	−1[illegible]	9.15	7.98
97[illegible]	90[illegible]	Treas 7% 2001	95⅞	−1[illegible]	7.36	8.01
111⅞	108[illegible]	Treas 9¾% 2002	109[illegible]	−1[illegible]	8.93	8.06
101[illegible]	94⅞	Treas 8% 2003	99[illegible]†	−1[illegible]	8.04	8.10
113[illegible]	105⅞	Treas 10% 2003	111⅛	−1[illegible]	8.99	8.11
117⅝	110[illegible]	Treas 11½% 2001-04	115[illegible]	−1[illegible]	9.94	8.07
80[illegible]	72[illegible]	Fund 3½% 1999-04	72[illegible]†	−[illegible]	4.66	7.92
111[illegible]	103[illegible]	Conv 9½% 2004	108[illegible]	−1[illegible]	8.74	8.17
93[illegible]	86[illegible]	Treas 6¾% 2004	90⅞	−1[illegible]	7.42	8.16
105[illegible]	97⅝	Treas 8½% 2005	102[illegible]	−1[illegible]	8.26	8.15
111[illegible]	103[illegible]	Conv 9½% 2005	109[illegible]	−1[illegible]	8.71	8.16
128[illegible]	119[illegible]	Treas 12½% 2003-05	125[illegible]	−[illegible]	9.93	8.21
99[illegible]	92[illegible]	Treas 7¾% 2006	97[illegible]	−1⅛	7.98	8.18
101⅛	93⅞	Treas 8% 2002-06	99[illegible]	−[illegible]	8.06	8.13
123[illegible]	113[illegible]	Treas 11¾% 2003-07	119[illegible]	−1[illegible]	9.80	8.20
105[illegible]	97[illegible]	Treas 8½% 2007	102[illegible]xd	−1[illegible]	8.26	8.19
135[illegible]	126[illegible]	Treas 13½% 2004-08	132[illegible]	−1[illegible]	10.18	8.21
110[illegible]	101⅝	Treas 9% 2008	107⅛	−1[illegible]	8.40	8.13
102[illegible]	94	Treas 8% 2009	98¾	−1[illegible]	8.09	8.14

LONGS (over 15 years)

1995 High	Low	Stock	Price £	+/-	Int yld %	Grs red yld
86[illegible]	79[illegible]	Treas 6¼% 2010	83[illegible]	−1[illegible]	7.48	8.15
111[illegible]	101[illegible]	Conv 9% 2011	107[illegible]	−1[illegible]	8.37	8.16
111[illegible]	102[illegible]	Treas 9% 2012	107[illegible]	−1[illegible]	8.38	8.16
79[illegible]	72⅝	Treas 5½% 2008-12	77¾	..	7.07	8.07
102¼	93[illegible]	Treas 8% 2013	98⅛	−1[illegible]	8.11	8.15
99[illegible]	91[illegible]	Treas 7¾% 2012-15	97[illegible]	−1[illegible]	7.97	8.16
110[illegible]	100[illegible]	Treas 8¾% 2017	106[illegible]	−2[illegible]	8.28	8.19
139[illegible]	127[illegible]	Exch 12% 2013-17	135[illegible]	−2[illegible]	8.86	8.24

UNDATED

1995 High	Low	Stock	Price £	+/-	Int yld %	Grs red yld
45[illegible]	40[illegible]	War Ln 3½%	43[illegible]	−[illegible]	8.03	
31¾	28⅛	Treas 2½%	30[illegible]	+[illegible]	8.15	
49[illegible]	45⅞	Consols 4%	48[illegible]	−1	8.28	...

INDEX-LINKED on projected inflation of:

1995 High	Low	Stock	Price £	+/-	10%	5%
211	201[illegible]	Treas IL 2% 1996	210	−[illegible]	1.55	3.48
112[illegible]	106[illegible]	Treas IL 4⅝% 1998	111	−[illegible]	2.31	3.24
176¾	165[illegible]	Treas IL 2½% 2001	174[illegible]	−1[illegible]	3.08	3.52
173[illegible]	161[illegible]	Treas IL 2½% 2003	170[illegible]	−1[illegible]	3.22	3.56
119[illegible]	108[illegible]	Treas IL 4⅜% 2004	113⅞	−1[illegible]	3.24	3.56
181[illegible]	169[illegible]	Treas IL 2% 2006	178[illegible]	−1½	3.34	3.58
164⅞	152[illegible]	Treas IL 2½% 2009	162	−1[illegible]	3.40	3.61
170[illegible]	157[illegible]	Treas IL 2½% 2011	167[illegible]	−1[illegible]	3.45	3.64
140¾	129[illegible]	Treas IL 2½% 2013	137[illegible]	−1[illegible]	3.50	3.67
150[illegible]	137⅞	Treas IL 2½% 2016	147[illegible]	−1[illegible]	3.51	3.67
144[illegible]	131[illegible]	Treas IL 2½% 2020	141[illegible]	−1[illegible]	3.56	3.69
120⅝	109¼	Treas IL 2½% 2024	117[illegible]	−1[illegible]	3.56	3.69
119[illegible]	108[illegible]	Treas IL 4⅛% 2030	116[illegible]	−1[illegible]	3.57	3.70

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Brit Fndmtls Inc	76.14	81.01	+ 0.14	4.61
Global Opps	87.72	93.32†	+ 0.11	0.43
Balanced Acc	56.27	59.87	− 0.04	2.98
Balanced Inc	54.57	58.02	− 0.03	2.98
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Euro Capital Inc	140.70	150.50	− 0.90	.64
(Accum Units)	151.80	161.40	− 1.00	.64
General	242.80	258.30	− 0.50	2.11
Japan	108.80	116.40	− 4.10	..
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UK Growth Dist	119.50	127.80	+ 0.30	3.01
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Cash	50.05	50.05†	+ 0.00	5.84
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Exempt	992.80	£10.63	+ 2.00	1.75
Extra Income	47.03	50.29†	+ 0.52	5.99
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Aberdeen Gilt Inc	49.61	49.61†	− 0.05	7.57
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Amity Income	76.18	80.83	+ 0.45	2.52
Income Builder Inc	71.11	75.65†	+ 0.61	2.92

	Sell	Buy	Wkly +/-	Yld %
Pacific Portfolio	137.69	148.06†	− 1.64	0.87
UK Inc & Growth	77.51	83.19	− 0.01	3.29
Utility & Bond	56.03	55.70	+ 0.47	7.12
CENT BD OF FIN OF CHURCH OF ENG				
0171 588 1815				
Inv Fund	688.23	698.63	+ 8.68	4.49
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Inc	675.76	682.39		4.59
Accum	£29.04	£29.32		
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Fixed Int Acc	201.55	202.06		
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City Fin Assets	70.97	75.47	+ 1.36	1.64
City Fin America	92.01	96.62	+ 2.27	
City Fin Intl	78.30	83.87†	+ 0.87	1.42
City Fin Japan	148.81	158.26	− 1.41	
Friars Hse Cap	279.10	302.14	+ 1.69	1.63
Friars Hse Inc	192.93	208.75†	+ 1.58	4.02
Buckley Wrld Gth	124.29	131.75	+ 1.15	
Fairmont Cap Gth	134.34	143.67†	+ 1.20	...
Fairmont Intl	146.12	156.15†	+ 1.47	..
J Sid Inc/Gth Inc	53.67	58.21†	+ 0.52	4.23
CITY OF LONDON UNIT TST MGRS LTD				
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Emerging Markets	56.24	59.67	− 0.33	.
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0800 373 393				
American Gwth	62.35	66.68	+ 0.98	
Atlas Mngd Gwth	36.87	39.43	− 0.44	0.61
Dragon Growth	66.91	71.56	− 1.79	0.65
Equity High Inc	84.62	90.02†	+ 0.42	3.95
(Accum Units)	115.98	123.33	+ 0.56	3.95
Extra Income Inc	25.99	27.36	+ 0.06	5.46
Extra Income Acc	26.30	27.68	+ 0.06	5.46
European Gwth	53.16	56.55	− 0.34	1.27
Evergreen	27.72	29.65	− 0.17	.
General Equity	86.79	92.09	+ 0.57	3.70
Japan Growth	45.32	48.47	− 2.38	.
Pedigree Gwth	52.56	55.92	+ 0.22	2.75
Pef Sm Cos Inc	30.66	32.62†	+ 0.06	4.60
(Accum Units)	32.09	34.14	+ 0.07	4.60
Retirement Inc	26.34	28.02	+ 0.14	5.45
Special Sits	38.26	40.70	− 0.22	5.03
US & Overseas	49.98	52.82	− 0.66	1.33
COLONIAL MUTUAL UT MGRS LTD				
01634 898 000				
Capital	70.28	74.50	+ 0.07	1.99
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Income Funds				
Equity Inc	161.27	171.56	+ 0.80	5.10
Fixed & Convertible	39.70	42.23	+ 0.40	7.06
Monthly Inc Plus	47.49	50.52	− 0.03	6.67
Preference Share	45.12	48.00	+ 0.02	7.84
Balanced Funds				
High Yield	124.17	132.10	+ 1.99	5.15
Managed Fund	68.35	72.71	− 0.13	3.25
UK Growth Funds				
Smaller Cos	38.56	41.02	+ 0.32	1.98
(Accum Units)	44.86	47.74	+ 0.36	1.98
UK & General	81.84	87.06	+ 0.63	2.93
(Accum Units)	103.73	110.35	+ 0.82	2.93
UK Growth	150.30	159.59	+ 0.71	2.63

	Sell	Buy	Wkly +/-	Yld %
International	77.55	82.50	− 1.76	0.06
Ecology	82.28	87.53	+ 0.21	1.23
European	129.08	137.32	+ 0.86	..
Far Eastern	289.00	307.40	− 6.10	..
KLEINWORT BENSON UNIT TRUSTS				
Dealers: 0171 956 7854				
Income Trusts				
Extra Income	49.96	53.15†	− 1.05	7.90
Gilt Yield	115.60	121.90†	− 1.80	6.39
Global Income	211.00	224.50†	+ 0.70	4.37
High Yield	140.10	149.00	+ 0.78	5.95

	Sell	Buy	Wkly +/-	Yld %
UK Growth	382.80	407.20	+ 3.30	2.95
(Accum Units)	508.10	538.40	+ 4.40	2.95
NM JOINT INVESTORS LTD				
01620 825867				
Balanced Fd	£13.29	£13.56†	+ 0.90	3.80
Income	£10.02	£10.17	+ 1.50	4.80
MALDON UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD				
0131 222 4242				
Maldon General	137.70	141.88	..	4.24

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North American	80.67	85.82	+ 0.14	0.28
European Special	117.20	124.70	− 2.40	0.12
European	158.40	168.50†	− 1.30	0.46
(Accum Units)	208.70	222.00†	− 1.70	0.46
Global Eqy Inc	105.10	111.80	− 0.50	1.07
Japan	369.50	393.10†	−16.90	..
Japanese Special	194.80	207.20	− 9.20	.
Master Accum	237.60	252.80	− 0.90	0.55
Pacific	323.90	344.60	− 4.90	.
(Accum Units)	379.90	404.20	− 5.70	..
Smaller Cos	110.10	117.10†	− 0.30	1.27

	Sell	Buy	Wkly +/-	Yld %
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UK Sel Pfolio	134.30	141.40	+ 1.10	2.43
-do- Accum	158.00	166.40	+ 1.30	2.43
MARLBOROUGH FUND MGRS LTD				
01204 364 642				
Managed Tst	71.22	75.77	+ 0.07	3.60

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Derby pitch deemed unsuitable by Lamb

By Ivo Tennant

DERBY (second day of four): Northamptonshire (20 pts) beat Derbyshire (4pts) by four wickets

A CHAMPIONSHIP match supposed to be played over four days ended before tea yesterday with seven sessions still remaining, and the Northamptonshire captain as critical of the pitch as he was pleased that his side continues to lead the table. "It was below average with too much grass left on and loaded far too much in the bowlers' favour," Allan Lamb said.

Indeed it was. Although the groundsman took some of this grass off before the start of play yesterday, no batsman looked like staying in for any length of time. There was not one half-century made over the two days. It was not a dangerous pitch and hence did not attract any opprobrium from the umpires, but any more like this and Derbyshire's members will start to wonder about the value of their subscriptions.

They will not want to hear their own captain, Kim Barnett, say that he "does not believe in making pitches to fill the time available", especially after he has lost the match. County clubs have to consider their members, and that, whatever their views on four-day cricket, it has to be approached in a respectful way.

That Northamptonshire were victorious was simply because, for all Cork's endeavours, they had the stronger side. We have to think of them seriously now as possible county champions. Having taken the remaining seven Derbyshire wickets, they made the runs they required, 133, through three reasonable contributions from their middle order.

It was not only the bowlers who swung the ball and moved it off the pitch who were a handful. Lamb had Kumble, his leg spinner, on from the start of play. The bounce that he extracted accounted for Harris, caught at short leg off the face of the bat. Wells was taken in the same position, pushing forward at Capel as he had at Curran in the first innings.

Dessaur was beaten by one Taylor brought back at him. Krikken was leg-before to Mallender, half-forward, and Aldred went in like manner, trying to turn the ball to leg. Warner was bowled lunging peculiarly at Kumble — the Chancellor of the Exchequer had his bowling rather than his batting in mind when agreeing to write for his benefit brochure — and Cottam was neatly picked up by Curran at second slip off Taylor.

All this was about as unedifying to observe as it must have been to enact for the batting side. Taylor finished with four wickets, eight in the match, and Northamptonshire with as much time as they desired to make what, in these conditions, was something more than a trifling total. They also had to contend with Cork, who was not so stiff from his previous day's exertions as to be unable to bowl them out a second time.

Cork puts his greater maturity down to the necessary self-discipline imposed through looking after himself in India last winter. He has learnt, too, from Malcolm Marshall who passed on some tips at Chesterfield earlier in the season. Cork soon snaffled the wickets of the openers, Fordham and Montgomerie, both leg-before lunging at the swinging, darting, near-unplayable ball.

There were further wickets, Lamb caught behind off one that drifted away and Warren going in similar fashion. But by then, those two and Bailey, who was dropped at second slip when he had eight, had made sufficient runs for the outcome no longer to be in doubt. Aldred did have Curran extremely well held by Wells at first slip, but that, as the announcer said, concluded the day's entertainment. Only in this match, the conditions ensured that there was all too little.

Admirable Adams the perfect foil

Michael Henderson at Headingley

There is something reassuring about watching Jimmy Adams bat: something right, something proper. He has shots but he is not a spendthrift. His defence is made from bricks but he is hardly a labourer. As batsman, short leg fielder and team-mate he is the ideal cricketer: honest, selfless, thorough.

He is also mightily talented, which is not to say he is brilliant. His lack of brilliance is perhaps his strongest quality. Brilliance dazzles, as Brian Lara dazzled for a glittering hour yesterday; it can also deceive. Adams could never deceive himself or anybody else. Whether you call it fortitude, dedication or simply "the right stuff", he has got oodles of it, and aren't West Indies the lucky ones?

On a day when England's batsmen chose to reveal their lack of discretion it was not hard to admire Adams's resolution. In 19 Tests (only three more than Mark Ramprakash, who remains unproven) he has become the pole of stability in the West Indies batting order, the solid player around whom others can fashion a more expansive, eye-catching game. If that makes him sound a bit dull-doggish, pick the bones out of this little fact: he averages 72.

In cricket, as in life, there is a classical strain and a romantic one. West Indian batsmen tend to belong in the latter camp. In recent years the solid Larry Gomes stands out among the left-handers (Sobers, Lloyd, Fredericks) as the one closest to Adams in temperament and approach, though he wasn't as good a player.

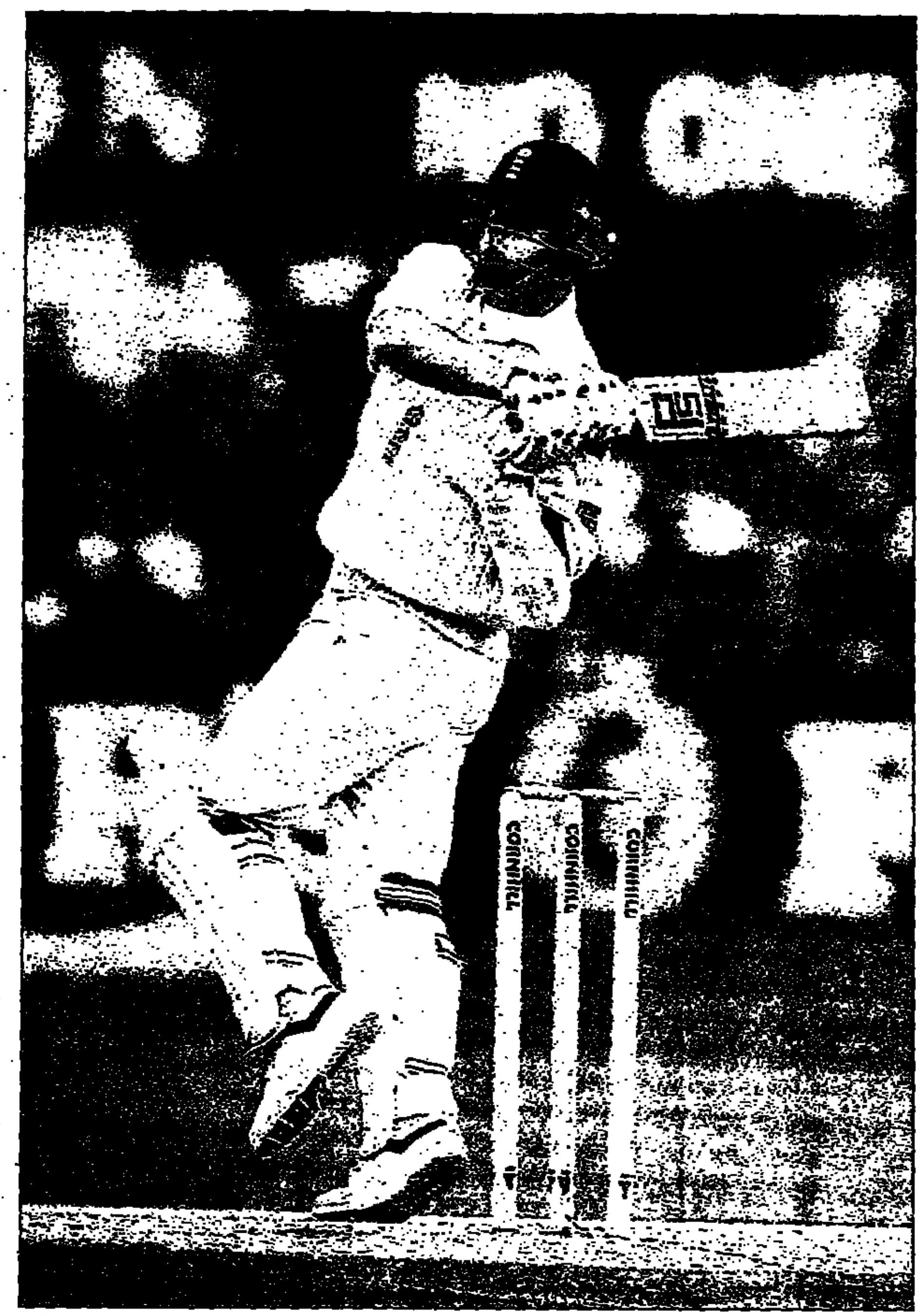
Lara, the improviser, is a romantic, closer in emotional range to Sobers than any other since the great all-rounder retired from Test cricket in 1974. Sobers was quoted last week saying something very odd, that Lara had the "potential" to become a "genius", which is not a word anybody with a sense of history or proportion should use freely.

First, genius is something that afflicts its possessor. One doesn't come by it, as at a bring-and-buy sale. Secondly, it is too precious a quality to be wasted on mere sportsmen, however gifted they may be. Genius may be found in the third act of *La Boheme*, the eyes of a Rembrandt self-portrait or in the harmonious splendour of the Place Vendôme. It is not evident in a beautiful cover drive, or a dozen beautiful cover drives.

If you are not a genius, however, the next best thing is to bat like Lara. Going to 50in 40 balls as he did, and finding the boundary from a quarter of them, is a dandy way to make good the loss of a wicket to the first ball of the innings. At times, Lara batted like a man who has other things on his mind, as he has. Not everybody has to shoulder a burden of expectation that will never ease.

His exchanges with Darren Gough, so eagerly awaited, were disappointingly one-sided. Lara drove the first ball he received from Gough past the bowler for four and, in all, took 19 runs off the 15 balls he faced from him. There were further boundaries hit straight, dabbed to third man and, best of all, pummelled past cover. That was a real "not a man move" stroke, as C. L. R. James used to put it.

Adams cannot play like that, and nor can anybody else. It goes almost without saying that the cricket-lovers on the western terrace appreciated every ball of these two splendid little innings. The "Think Tank" convened early and sat until it was time to go home, if anyone could remember by then where home was. By the end of the day, as England clawed some ground back, there were people doing the conga. Ye Gods!



Gough, who entered to a warm reception from his home crowd, left in silence after hooking his first ball into the hands of Ambrose. Photograph: Marc Aspland

YESTERDAY'S SCOREBOARDS

Britannic Assurance county championship

Derbys v Northants

DERBY (second day of four): Northamptonshire (20pts) beat Derbyshire (4) by four wickets

DERBYSHIRE: First Innings 113 (J P Taylor 4 for 23)

Second Innings

*K J Barnett c Warren b Taylor	0
W A Dessaur lbw b Taylor	40
A S Rollins c Warren b Taylor	8
D J Cullinan b Capel	25
A J Harris c Fordham b Kumble	5
C M Wells c Fordham b Capel	2
†K M Krikken lbw b Mallender	17
D G Cork not out	16
P Aldred lbw b Mallender	0
A E Warner b Kumble	8
A C Cottam c Curran b Taylor	2
Extras (b 1, lb 12, w 1, nb 2)	16
Total	139

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-0, 2-18, 3-59, 4-68, 5-71, 6-100, 7-112, 8-116, 9-132.

BOWLING: Taylor 13.5-1-44-4; Mallender 10-2-33-2; Capel 10-4-18-2; Penberthy 1-0-5-0, Kumble 12-4-26-2.

NORTHAMPTONSHIRE: First Innings 120 (D G Cork 8 for 43)

Second Innings

R R Montgomerie lbw b Cork	8
A Fordham lbw b Cork	7
R J Bailey c Wells b Aldred	32
*A J Lamb c Krikken b Cork	27
†R J Warren c Krikken b Cork	28
K M Curran c Wells b Aldred	0
D J Capel not out	17
A L Penberthy not out	0
Extras (lb 15)	15
Total (6 wkts)	135

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-15, 2-24, 3-80, 4-92, 5-96, 6-130.

BOWLING: Cork 20.3-5-50-4, Warner 5-2-15-0; Harris 7-0-18-0, Aldred 8-0-37-2.

Umpires: J H Harris and M J Kitchen

OFFICIAL CORRECTION: Northamptonshire first innings: R R Montgomerie c Dessaur b Cork, not as previously published.

Essex v Durham

CHELMSFORD (second day of four): Durham, with one first-innings wicket in hand, are 127 runs behind Essex

ESSEX: First Innings

G A Gooch c Longley b Walker	97
D D J Robinson c Ligertwood b Brown	4
M E Waugh c Ligertwood b Walker	85
N Hussain lbw b Walker	66
*P J Prichard c Boiling b Walker	47
R C Irani c Morris b Blenkiron	6
†R J Rollins lbw b Walker	1
P M Such c Ligertwood b Walker	2
N A Derbyshire c Roseberry b Walker	9
D M Cousins not out	18
J H Childs c Ligertwood b Walker	15
Extras (b 2, lb 4, w 1, nb 6)	13
Total (127.2 overs)	373

Score at 120 overs: 361-9

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-11, 2-202, 3-217, 4-315, 5-322, 6-326, 7-328, 8-331, 9-345

BOWLING: Brown 33-6-87-1; Prabhakar 21-4-40-0, Walker 39.2-8-118-8; Cox 12-3-45-0, Boiling 18-4-66-0, Blenkiron 4-1-10-1.

DURHAM: First Innings

J I Longley b Irani	21
*M A Roseberry lbw b Irani	23
J E Morris c Hussain b Waugh	4
M Prabhakar c Hussain b Waugh	4
W Larkins c Gooch b Derbyshire	22
D A Blenkiron c Irani b Cousins	94
†D G C Ligertwood c Rollins b Childs	25
J Boiling not out	11
D M Cox c Rollins b Such	5
A Walker b Childs	5
S J E Brown not out	4
Extras (b 7, lb 3, w 2, nb 16)	28
Total (9 wkts, 82 overs)	246

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-43, 2-50, 3-54, 4-67, 5-116, 6-199, 7-219, 8-227, 9-238

BOWLING: Cousins 14-2-41-1; Waugh 16-3-58-2, Irani 18-4-59-2; Derbyshire 5-1-20-1; Childs 18-5-31-2, Gooch 4-1-17-0; Such 7-3-10-1

Bonus points: Essex 8 Durham 5

Umpires: A A Jones and K J Lyons.

Hants v Leicestershire

HAMPSHIRE: First Innings 319 (G W White 62, J P Stephenson 55, M C J Nicholas 50; G J Parsons 4 for 58)

Second Innings

R S M Morris c Cronje b Pierson	29
V P Terry not out	45
J P Stephenson not out	11
Extras (lb 5, nb 2)	7
Total (1 wkt)	92

FALL OF WICKET: 1-67

BOWLING: Mullally 8-5-5-0; Parsons 7-2-32-0; Millns 5-0-14-0, Cronje 4-1-10-0, Pierson 5-0-26-1.

LEICESTERSHIRE: First Innings 154 (B F Smith 57 not out, C A Connor 6 for 44, H H Streak 4 for 44)

Second Innings

D L Maddy lbw b Connor	14
*N E Briers c Udal b Connor	5
W J Cronje b Connor	66
J J Whitaker b Udal	11
V J Wells b Udal	0
B F Smith lbw b Connor	67
†P A Nixon not out	44
G J Parsons c Terry b Streak	20
D J Millns c White b Streak	0
A R K Pierson b Streak	0
A D Mullally c Aymes b Streak	2
Extras (b 1, lb 7, nb 16)	24
Total	253

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-11, 2-50, 3-75, 4-75, 5-180, 6-185, 7-251, 8-251, 9-251.

BOWLING: Connor 25-9-83-4; Bovill 26-8-57-0, Udal 15-1-46-2; Streak 13-5-40-4; Stephenson 4-1-19-0.

Umpires: D R Shepherd and G Sharp

Kent v Gloucestershire

CANTERBURY (second day of four): Kent, with three first-innings wickets in hand, are 223 runs behind Gloucestershire

GLOUCESTERSHIRE: First Innings 321 (M A Lynch 108, A Symonds 52; D W Headley 5 for 68, M J McCague 5 for 88)

KENT: First Innings

T R Ward lbw b Srinath	6
*M R Benson c Russell b Smith	0
M M Patel c Russell b Alleyne	26
M A Ealham c Russell b Srinath	33
P A de Silva lbw b Smith	3
G R Cowdrey lbw b Smith	2
M J McCague c Russell b Smith	4
M V Fleming not out	3
†S A Marsh not out	5
Extras (b 1, lb 5, nb 10)	16
Total (7 wkts, 50 overs)	98

S Herzberg and D W Headley to bat.

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-8, 2-14, 3-69, 4-72, 5-84, 6-90, 7-90

BOWLING: Srinath 16-8-17-2, Smith 22-10-46-4, Alleyne 10-2-25-1; Ball 1-1-0-0, Dawes 1-0-4-0.

Bonus points: Kent 4 Gloucestershire 5

Umpires: B Leadbeater and K E Palmer.

Lancashire v Glamorgan

LANCASHIRE: First Innings

J E R Gallian c Kendrick b Barwick	36
N J Speak run out	7
J P Crawley c sub b Croft	182
N H Fairbrother c Watkin b Barwick	14
G D Lloyd lbw b Croft	50
*M Watkinson c sub b Croft	44
Wasim Akram c Cottey b Dale	10
I D Austin run out	8
†W K Hegg not out	35
G Chapple c Kendrick b Watkin	15
G Keedy c and b Watkin	4
Extras (b 5, lb 4, nb 2)	11
Total (122.4 overs)	417

Score at 120 overs: 408-9

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-17, 2-84, 3-132, 4-228, 5-316, 6-350, 7-350, 8-363, 9-397

BOWLING: Watkin 23.4-4-67-2; Anthony 15-2-62-0; Barwick 30-8-78-2; Croft 29-4-93-3, Dale 16-2-50-1, Kendrick 9-0-58-0.

GLAMORGAN: First Innings

A Dale retired hurt	31
*H Morris c Crawley b Keedy	67
D L Hemp c Hegg b Wasim	11
M P Maynard not out	119
P A Cottey not out	105
Extras (lb 3, nb 2)	5
Total (2 wkts, 95 overs)	338

R D B Croft, H A G Anthony, S R Barwick, N M Kendrick, †C P Metson and S L Watkin to bat.

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-82, 2-140.

BOWLING: Wasim Akram 15-4-46-1; Chapple 15-3-71-0; Austin 16-3-51-0; Watkinson 22-4-76-0; Keedy 22-5-75-1; Gallian 5-1-16-0.

Bonus points: Lancashire 4 Glamorgan 7

Umpires: B Dudleston and J C Balderstone

Notts v Worcestershire

TRENT BRIDGE (second day of four): Worcestershire, with seven first-innings wickets in hand, are 22 runs behind Nottinghamshire

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE: First Innings

M P Dowman c Moody b Haynes	9
*R T Robinson c and b Newport	40
G F Archer c Moody b Lampitt	9
P Johnson c Moody b Lampitt	94
C L Cairns st Rhodes b D'Oliveira	26
K P Evans b D'Oliveira	6
†W M Noon b Newport	59
J E Hindson c Weston b D'Oliveira	1
R A Pick lbw b Newport	15
M G Field-Buss lbw b Newport	2
J A Afford not out	15
Extras (lb 7, nb 16)	23
Total (102.4 overs)	301

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-21, 2-44, 3-101, 4-160, 5-172, 6-212, 7-215, 8-232, 9-238

BOWLING: Newport 26.4-5-61-4, Haynes 12-3-31-1, Lampitt 22-6-59-2; D'Oliveira 28-4-88-3, Leatherdale 1-0-10-0; Radford 10-2-38-0; Moody 3-0-7-0.

WORCESTERSHIRE: First Innings

*T S Curtis lbw b Pick	0
W P C Weston c Noon b Hindson	105
M J Church lbw b Hindson	25
T M Moody not out	132
N V Radford not out	1
Extras (b 4, lb 9, w 1, nb 2)	16
Total (3 wkts, 102 overs)	279

G R Haynes, D A Leatherdale, †S J Rhodes, S R Lampitt, D B D'Oliveira and P J Newport to bat.

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-5, 2-48, 3-275.

BOWLING: Pick 12-3-37-1, Evans 10-4-34-0, Hindson 28-7-71-2, Field-Buss 28-7-66-0; Afford 24-4-58-0.

Bonus points: Notts 4 Worcs 5

Umpires: R A White and A G T Whitehead

Surrey v Somerset

SURREY: First Innings 221 (J D Ratcliffe 70; Mushtaq Ahmed 5 for 54)

Second Innings

J D Ratcliffe not out	35
M A Butcher not out	33
Extras (nb 2)	2
Total (no wkt)	70

BOWLING: Rose 8.3-1-38-0; Kerr 2-0-3-0; Mushtaq Ahmed 6-1-29-0, Trump 1-1-0-0.

SOMERSET: First Innings

M N Lathwell lbw b Rackemann	2
M E Trescothick c Brown b Bicknell	0
P D Bowler c Kersey b Pigott	25
R J Harden c Brown b Bicknell	90
*A N Hayhurst c Kersey b Rackemann	9
G D Rose b Smith	33
S C Ecclestone b Bicknell	41
†R J Turner lbw b Bicknell	0
Mushtaq Ahmed c Ward b Bicknell	1
J I D Kerr not out	26
H R J Trump c Brown b Pigott	17
Extras (b 3, lb 2, w 1, nb 10)	16
Total (80.5 overs)	260

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-2, 2-4, 3-50, 4-80, 5-152, 6-210, 7-210, 8-214, 9-214.

BOWLING: Rackemann 21-5-58-2; Bicknell 19-8-61-5; Pigott 15.5-4-36-2, Shahid 5-1-18-0; Smith 15-3-51-1, Hollioake 1-0-5-0, Butcher 4-0-26-0.

Bonus points: Surrey 5 Somerset 6

Umpires: J W Holder and T E Jesty.

Warwickshire v Sussex

WARWICKSHIRE: First Innings 248 (A J Moles 66, T L Penney 51)

SUSSEX: First Innings

N J Lenham lbw b Donald	13
J W Hall c Moles b Brown	42
P W Jarvis c Knight b Munton	20
K Newell c Ostler b Munton	39
*A P Wells c sub b Donald	49
K Greenfield c Smith b Donald	84
†P Moores c Piper b Munton	56
F D Stephenson c Smith b Donald	12
I D K Salisbury c Moles b Brown	10
J D Lewry not out	0
E S H Giddins not out	0
Extras (b 2, lb 15, nb 18)	35
Total (9 wkts, 117.1 overs)	360

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-26, 2-53, 3-108, 4-154, 5-195, 6-300, 7-313, 8-350, 9-360.

BOWLING: Donald 29-3-112-4, Small 18-0-74-0, Munton 28-7-59-3; Brown 21.1-6-54-2, Smith 7-4-15-0, Twose 14-5-29-0.

Bonus points: Warwickshire 5 Sussex 8

Umpires: J D Bond and R Palmer.

Other match

Camb Univ v Middlesex

MIDDLESEX: First Innings

P N Weekes b Haste	58
J C Pooley b Haste	48
*J D Carr not out	116
T A Radford c Churton b Yeabsley	16
J C Harrison c Churton b Whittall	44
†P Farbrace c Churton b Hughes	16
R L Johnson not out	14
Extras (b 4, lb 6, w 1, nb 2)	13
Total (5 wkts, 98 overs)	327

K J Shine, A A Khan, K P Dutch and K Marc to bat.

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-113, 2-116, 3-181, 4-269, 5-292.

BOWLING: Haste 24-6-87-2; How 13-3-28-0; Whittall 25-8-92-1; Hughes 24-2-98-1, Carroll 3-0-4-0; Yeabsley 9-3-28-1

CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY: R T Ragnauth, J Ratledge, R Q Cake, J P Carroll, R A Battye, M I Yeabsley, *A R Whittall, †D R H Churton, N J Haste, E R Hughes, E How.

Umpires: D J Constant and V A Holder.

Blenkiron pulls and drives to the rescue

By Geoffrey Wheeler

DARREN BLENKIRON, 21, whose three previous innings in championship cricket for Durham had produced only seven runs, took the fight to the Essex bowlers so successfully at Chelmsford yesterday that he needed only 99 balls to score 94 and rescue his side from yet another collapse.

Durham, beaten in their past five matches, were 69 for four in reply to 373 when Blenkiron, whose father played for Warwickshire, took guard with aggressive intent. Most of his 15 fours came from full-blooded drives and pulls, and it took a fine diving catch by Ronnie Irani to deprive him of a well-deserved century. None of Blenkiron's teammates got beyond 25 in a total of 246 for nine.

The two remaining Essex wickets in the morning were taken by Alan Walker, 32, who returned career-best figures of eight for 118, which were also the best by a Durham bowler since the county achieved first-class status in 1992.

Rain at Canterbury meant that the Gloucestershire seam bowlers had to wait until late afternoon to try and consolidate the Lynch-inspired recovery of the first day. Mark Benson fell almost immediately but Min Patel, the nightwatchman, proved difficult to shift.

He and Mark Ealham ground out 55 runs in taking the score to 69 and Patel had been in for two hours for 26 when he fell to Mark Alleyne. Left-armer Mike Smnith then made a mess of the middle order and Kent finished at 98 for seven, still 223 behind.

With Tom Moody hitting an unbeaten 132, Worcestershire built up a promising position at Trent Bridge. It was a day of hard toil for the three Nottinghamshire spinners as Moody and Philip Weston, who made 105, added 227 for the third wicket. At 279 for three, Worcestershire are only 22 behind. Moody has already hit three sixes and 13 fours.

Maynard and Cottey far from flagging

By Jack Bailey

OLD TRAFFORD (second day of four): Glamorgan, with eight first-innings wickets in hand, are 79 runs behind Lancashire

JUST as Thursday belonged to Lancashire, yesterday was emphatically Glamorgan's. The pitch behaved beautifully — except, that is, when Wasim Akram dug one in and broke Adrian Dale's thumb — and, after Lancashire's last two wickets had added 39 more runs, Glamorgan set to with a will. In the vanguard were Matthew Maynard and Tony Cottey, with Hugh Morris close behind.

In adding 198 runs in an unbroken third wicket partnership, Maynard and Cottey beat the previous highest against Lancashire, scored by Tony Lewis and Peter Walker in 1970. Both scored centuries of a high quality, both looked capable of batting for far longer against an attack that, long before the end, had settled for containment.

Maynard's first century of the season was a sharp reminder of how good a player he can be. He set out his stall more carefully than he sometimes does, taking 82 balls to reach his half-century. There was no rush; Glamorgan were facing a large total, and the last thing they needed was a flurry of runs and wickets.

Furthermore, the Lancashire attack had been largely blunted by Morris. The Glamorgan captain gave Lancashire's bowling precious little leeway while he gathered 67 in ten minutes short of three hours, allowing no bad ball to go unpunished until he received a high full toss from Gary Keedy and holed out to mid-on.

By then, too, Dale had left the scene. In Wasim's first over of the innings, a sharply lifting ball had struck the batsman on the right hand before he had scored. As if piqued, the Glamorgan opener took three successive fours off Wasim a few overs later in a blaze of stroke play, only to leave the field within minutes, 31 to his name, all scored, as it later transpired, with a broken thumb.

Dale declared himself fit to bat in an emergency, but it never looked as though Glamorgan would need him again yesterday. David Hemp did not last long, but once he had fallen victim to Wasim's sucker punch — looking for the bouncer after crashing the previous ball off the front foot for four, and receiving, instead, a gentle drifter of full length which he edged to the keeper — Maynard and Cottey took over.

The Lancashire bowling was steady, but was looking resigned long before the end, as Maynard was joined by the busy little Cottey. If anything, the odd ball was inclined to keep low, which suited the 5ft 4in Cottey down to the ground, so to speak. He made his century in two-and-a-half hours, striking 13 fours along the way.

Disappointing though all this may have been for Lancashire in general, a particular concern must revolve around the continued indifferent form of their promising opening bowler, Glen Chapple. Bidding fair for England honours after his triumphant return from India with the England A team, he may well be bothered more than he lets on by a persistent injury behind the knee.

Certainly, he appears to be failing to point his left shoulder towards the batsman in his delivery stride, falling away as he bowls. Yesterday, there was little evidence of the out-swinger that has often been his chief weapon.

Champions thwarted by sixth-wicket pair

By Rupert Cox

EDGBASTON (second day of four): Sussex, with one first-innings wicket standing, lead Warwickshire by 112 runs

A BIRMINGHAM day that began in bright sunshine for the champions ended in relative gloom. Although the early Sussex batsmen failed to capitalise after establishing themselves, a century stand for the sixth wicket, the third this season, by Keith Greenfield and Peter Moores, put the visitors in the ascendancy.

Despite some indifferent one-day form this season, Warwickshire's championship credentials have remained largely intact. However, on yesterday's showing, they are going to need a much improved all-round performance to procure more than the bonus points they have already gained.

With Tim Munton and Allan Donald returning to boost their bowling resources, the South African after a fretful night's sleep thanks to his three-week-old daughter, Hannah, Warwickshire could have been expected to exert strong pressure.

But initially the two bowlers struggled to find their rhythm, although they managed to allay apprehension with excellent spells when bowling in tandem with the second new ball, late in the day.

With the benefit of hindsight, Munton will doubtless rue his decision to bat on Thursday for the pitch was considerably more docile yesterday, affording minimal lateral movement. A good toss to lose for Alan Wells, whose fluent 49 from 58 balls was embellished by ten boundaries. He looked good for many more when he injudiciously attempted to pull Donald and top-edged to fine leg.

The continued absence of Martin Speight, because of a virus, deprived a small crowd of more lavish entertainment, although the partnership between Greenfield and Moores was ideally suited to the team cause.

Two dropped catches by Dominic Ostler at second slip, when Jamie Hall was 11 and Moores two, have proved costly for Warwickshire who were glad to see the back of the compact Greenfield, who made 84 and was unfortunate to miss out on a second championship century of the campaign.

Bicknell remembers lines

By Simon Wilde

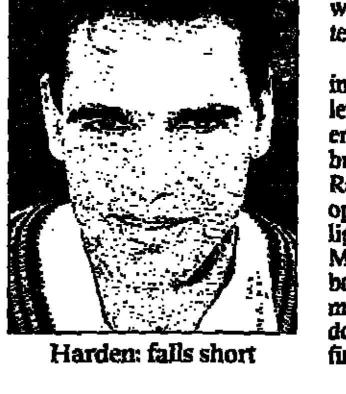
THE OVAL (second day of four): Surrey, with all second-innings wickets in hand, are 31 runs ahead of Somerset

WHAT is it about England fast bowlers? Seemingly, to do the job one requires an inability to stay fit for more than a week at a time, a liking for being a shark in the pool of county cricket and a tendency to look like a tiddler in the ocean of the international game. Martin Bicknell is one such strange fish.

Bicknell played two Test matches against Australia in 1993 on the back of a batful of wickets for Surrey. He was not a roaring success. Border and the Waugh twins milking him to their hearts' content. It was rather fortuitous when he broke down on the eve of the Oval Test, allowing Fraser to return after a two-year absence through injury to contribute to a famous victory. England played three fast bowlers who were all a success.

Since then Bicknell has rarely been fit, missing more championship matches than he has played in. He has fractured a foot, tweaked a hamstring and strained an ankle. Between times he has occasionally taken wickets but not enough for the England selectors to remember him. Until yesterday afternoon, it was obvious why.

Somerset had fed on his diet on wides and long hops. On Thursday evening he bowled five successive deliveries which Bowler or Harden hit for fours and barely looked fit. The boundaries continued in a flurry yesterday morning as Somerset closed in on Surrey's first-innings total of 221. Harden, who had not been dismissed in the championship for a fortnight, was near a fourth century of the season.



Harden: falls short

Then Bicknell remembered himself. Perhaps it occurred to him that he had not claimed five championship wickets at his home ground for three years. He started to bowl very fast and very straight. In the space of nine balls, Harden, after spending four hours reaching 90, dabbed a catch to second slip, Turner was leg-before, Mushtaq top-edged a pull to square leg and Ecclestone, after a clean-struck 41, was bowled.

Surrey were back in the match. It was a touching sight for the Surrey faithful, whose team rarely lives up to their expectations. Had Trump not been dropped in his next over, Bicknell's figures would have been even better. Trump stayed to add 46 for the last wicket with Kerr and give his team a useful lead.

Bicknell did not, it is true, intimidate anyone. That was left to Mushtaq Ahmed, Somerset's leg spinner, who brought tears to the eyes of Ratcliffe as Warwickshire's openers put on 70 before bad light brought a close. Mushtaq hit Ratcliffe in the box and held up play for five minutes. Until Bicknell can do that, he will never be the finished article.

Streak snuffs out last flicker of resistance

By Pat Gibson

BASINGSTOKE (third day of four): Hampshire (23pts) beat Leicestershire (4) by nine wickets

IT COULD not have worked out better. There was just enough cricket for the corporate guests to enjoy a leisurely lunch before Hampshire completed their third successive championship victory with a day and a half to spare.

Afterwards the scene at May's Bounty was completely relaxed as the beaten Leicestershire players enjoyed a kick-about and the spectators took a post-prandial stroll in the sunshine. But if that picture suggests that county cricket is as soft as some people would have you believe, it was totally misleading.

Hampshire, who seemed to be a soft touch themselves when they were losing their first six matches in all competitions, won because they played tough, competitive cricket. They batted grittily in the first innings, dismissed Leicestershire twice with bowling of high quality and held some blinding catches, none better than Terry's 300th in first-class cricket.

Leicestershire did not give up easily when they began the third day only 31 ahead with four wickets left. The two left-handers, Nixon and Parsons, not only saw off Connor, whose ability to move the ball both ways had already brought him ten wickets in the match, but stayed to put on 66 in 24 overs and extend the lead to 86.

It was then that Streak demonstrated his ability to clean up the tail for the second time in the match. First he had Parsons caught by Terry, wheeling round from second slip, off a top-edged hook and then Millns was caught via bat and pad off his second ball.

Pierson was bowled first ball and Mullally was taken by the wicketkeeper, Aymes, diving low to his right, to give Streak four wickets in seven balls. It also gave Streak eight in the match and took his haul to 20 in the past three games.

Hampshire needed only 89 to win and Morris and Terry made it a formality by putting on 67 for the first wicket. Hampshire were home 75 minutes after lunch and have yet to reach the fourth day this season.

Defeat may spell end of era

Scotland bank on exploiting 'weak link' in All Blacks

FROM MARK SOUSTER IN PRETORIA

THE end of an era looms for Scotland in Pretoria tomorrow. Defeat, as most predict, at the hands of New Zealand in the quarter-final of the World Cup will see the break-up of the team with the retirement of Iain Morrison and the man who has dominated Scottish rugby for the past four years, Gavin Hastings, the captain. The match could also mark the end of the careers of Dougie Morgan and Duncan Paterson, coach and manager respectively.

Such is Hastings's monumental will to win, it would be wrong to start writing epitaphs just yet. Although the Scottish challenge is being largely dismissed, the team believes that in a one-off situation, and with Hastings writing his own script in the autumn of a phenomenal career, an upset of momentous proportions is possible.

Hastings, the only Scotsman playing tomorrow who has tasted victory over New Zealand, and that as captain of the British Isles in the second international in Wellington in 1993, is adamant that the All Blacks can be beaten. "I have been emphasising to the boys all week that they are beatable. We have to be positive. I am so positive that I haven't given retirement a thought. As far as I am concerned the World Cup is still there to be won."

The Scots are basing much of their optimism on the fact that New Zealand have untried youngsters in key positions — none more so than Andrew Mehrtens, the stand-off — who have yet to encounter the cauldron of really pressured international rugby. For, apart from 30 minutes against Ireland when the All Blacks were made to backpedal, nobody has been able to turn the screw. The fact that the Irish scored three tries in that match before losing the initiative to mistakes and a lack of fitness, gives Scotland added hope, however slender.

Craig Chalmers, their stand-off half, said Scotland was a more organised and better all-round side than the Irish. "It's a knockout competition and whether we win by one pont or ten we don't care. We don't want this to be Gavin's last game. We are best when we are the underdogs."

Chalmers, however, agrees that it will take the performance of their lives to win. "We have got to concentrate for 80 minutes. We cannot afford a single lapse, for that is when they put the knife in. Everything we do has got to be precision."

Much will depend on the performance of the Scottish front five in providing a stable platform from which the, so far impressive, Scottish back row can dictate the pattern of the game. The role and impact of the opposing open sides, Morrision and Josh Kronfeld, will be vital and intriguing: the cerebral Morrison against Kronfeld who is being likened to a dog of war. New Zealand would appear to have the advantage in the set-piece, especially with the recall of the powerful Richard Loe against Peter Wright whom the All Blacks consider a weak link — not that Wright will shirk the challenge.

Given parity of possession, particularly from the lineout where New Zealand are not blessed with giants, Scotland can launch themselves forward. They know, however, that they must do more than rely on an, often aimless, aerial bombardment as they did against France. Having built themselves so much for that game, the pressure will, in a way, be far less intense because so little is expected of the Scots.

For their part, New Zealand are aware of the risks of gambling on youth. Lomu, impressive in attack, has yet to be tested on the back foot. Wilson has not played an international at full back, and Mehrtens has plundered against only weak opposition. Nonetheless, Brian Lochore, their campaign manager, sees the future in their hands. "These young guys are the key to our success. We are happy with them."

The prize is huge: a place in the semi-final against either England or Australia.

TOMORROW'S TEAMS IN PRETORIA

NEW ZEALAND		SCOTLAND
J W Wilson (Otago)	15	A G Hastings (Watsonians)*
M C G Ellis (Otago)	14	*C A Joiner (Melrose)*
F E Bunce (North Harbour)	13	S Hastings (Watsonians)
W K Little (North Harbour)	12	A G Shiel (Melrose)
J T Lomu (Counties)	11	K M Logan (Stirling County)
A Mehrtens (Canterbury)	10	*C M Chalmers (Melrose)*
G T M Bachop (Canterbury)	9	B W Redpath (Melrose)
R W Loe (Canterbury)	1	*D I W Hilton (Bath)*
S B T Fitzpatrick (Auckland)*	2	K S Milne (Heriot's FP)
O M Brown (Auckland)	3	*P H Wright (Boroughmuir)*
M R Brewer (Canterbury)	6	R I Wainwright (West Hartlepool)
I D Jones (North Harbour)	4	*D F Cronin (Bourges)*
R M Brooke (Auckland)	5	G W Weir (Melrose)
J Kronfeld (Otago)	7	*I R Morrison (London Scottish)*
Z V Brooke (Auckland)	8	E W Peters (Bath)

Referee: W D Bevan (Wales)

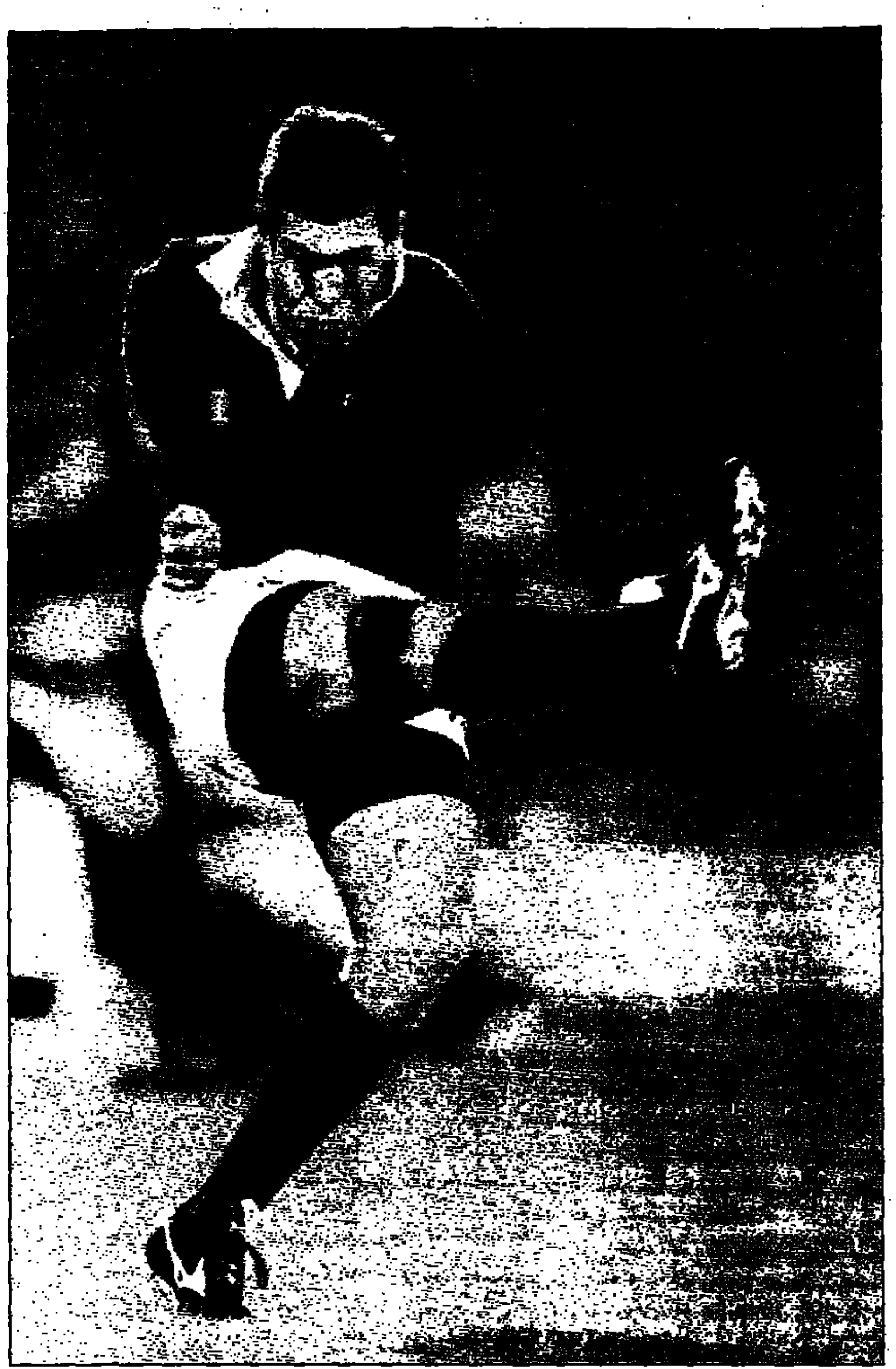
* captain

REPLACEMENTS: 16 E J Rush (North Harbour), 17 S Culhane (Southland), 18 A D Strachan (North Harbour), 19 J W Joseph (Otago), 20 C W Dowd (Auckland), 21 N J Hewitt (Southland).

REPLACEMENTS: 16 A G Stanger (Hawick), 17 I C Jardine (Stirling County), 18 D W Patterson (West Hartlepool), 19 S J Campbell (Dundee HSFP), 20 A P Burnell (London Scottish), 21 K D McKenzie (Stirling County).

Hastings calls for heroic commitment

David Miller finds the inspirational captain, who carries Scotland's hopes, in bullish mood



Hastings needs to produce his most accurate kicking form against New Zealand

Sport can be a kind of voluntary torture. Ecstasy and front-wheel blowouts imply the same anonymous scriptwriter. Ask Gavin Hastings.

In the span of six months Scotland's form has swung from one extreme to another. Never has the character of the rugby team or its captain been so on the line as today against New Zealand in the World Cup quarter-final.

Scotland have gone from the thumbscrew, against South Africa last November when walloped 34-10 at Murrayfield, to sweet victory against Paris in the five nations' championship, with their first victory there in 26 years. Then victory laughed in their face with France's last-minute try in the World Cup last week denying them the supposedly easier quarter-final against Ireland. They were back on the rack.

Amid this turmoil, Scotland's captain keeps his chin up. He has said the team will make history today. "We need to," he said, conceding that not a soul in the World Cup without tartan flowing in the blood gives Scotland a ghost of a chance at Ellis Park.

"A lot of our preparation has concentrated on the mind-game," he admitted. "With a record like ours [two draws and 15 defeats over 90 years] there's something psychological we have to overcome against the Kiwis, never mind the physical. To beat them, we have to have 15 guys playing the heroic game of their life. New Zealand are not unbeatable. France have shown that."

At 33, Hastings is scheduled to retire after ten seasons at the top. Anyone asking what has been his best match is gently rebuked. "Don't ask me till we've played New Zealand." Pressed, he thinks there were perhaps three: the grand slam against England at Murrayfield in 1990, the second international against New Zealand for the British Isles in 1993, when captain, and Paris this year. "They were all similar," he says, with almost in-bred underdoggery. "We'd been written off in all of them. What showed through on the day was character. A mental readiness."

Hastings has inevitably carried some of the blame for the 18-month spell of nine matches without victory, culminating in the Springbok mauling last autumn. The tide was turned with the first victory in ten games, 22-6 against Canada in January. The change in fortune came with change in personnel. "It's tough on those who lost to the Springboks," he said, "but the ten changes against Canada produced the necessary effect."

The match in Paris was Scotland's thirteenth in a winless run there, and Hastings's thirteenth as captain. He told his colleagues the omens must mean something. They did. He scored a memorable late try, and converted for a 23-21 victory.

The responsibility on the captain's shoulders these last few days, the demands from sponsors and media, never mind the coaching staff, have reached intolerable proportions. Yet he shows no evidence of disorientation, only the persistent demeanour of optimism in the face of towering odds.

When we had tea together, scheduled between a visit to a township and attending a British Embassy cocktail party, *he* fetched the tea from the players canteen and, remarkably, managed to be ungrudging, relaxed and objective.

Is it all too much? "There are moments when I think, my God, why am I doing this? The pressure is huge. Yet I accept the situation. I won't be doing it in a year's time, and I'm not sad or worried about that." The man has perspective; even if he did uncharacteristically break into tears after losing to England in 1994.

Everyone looks for that "edge" over an opponent. Scotland like to think they may have found one. "Our analyses, of New Zealand's recent performances and ours, have been more thorough than for any game," Hastings said. "I no longer bother about whether we'd rather have played Ireland than them. You have to beat the best."

It is said that Scotland lack bulk, on the one hand, fluidity on the other. Hastings reckons that opinion is as fluctuating as form. "They're no bigger than our guys," he asserts. "We've shown our ability at running rugby in the five nations, but the tendency is for people to associate that skill with teams other than Scotland."

Recently I saw a re-run of *The Longest Day*, a romanticised war film of an awful time in history. One of the genuinely moving moments, real and unexaggerated, is the piper leading his regiment ashore and up the beachhead. Sport is not, or should not be, an alternative to war, but it is just that kind of self-contained spirit that Scotland will need today, against another "little" nation that is big in rugby.

GAVIN HASTINGS' POINTS RECORD

	Try	Con	Pen	Pts
Five nations'				
1986	1	3	14	52
1987	—	5	8	34
1988	1	2	12	44
1989	—	—	—	—
1990	—	—	1	3
1991	1	1	3	15
1992	—	2	6	22
1993	—	1	10	32
1994	—	—	10	30
1995	1	6	13	56
Total	4	20	77	288
World Cup				
1987	3	16	8	82
1991	1	9	13	61
1995 (to date)	5	11	14	89
Total	9	36	35	212
British Isles				
1989	1	—	8	28
1993	—	1	12	38
Total	1	1	20	66
Other matches	4	27	27	152
Agg (56 matches)	18	84	157	718

☐ Only Michael Lynagh, of Australia, with 894 in 71 matches, has scored more points in internationals.

☐ The try was upgraded from four points to five in 1992—93.

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Chinese puzzle deepens with cancellation of trip

SIMON BARNES

On Saturday

THIS weekend, the first senior swimming team to leave China since the doping scandal competes in Barcelona. They go on to Canet, France, in midweek, and then to Monte Carlo next weekend. And every stroke they make, they are pursued by whacking great doubts.

Seven Chinese swimmers tested positive for steroids at the Asian Games last October, which adds up to half the positive tests in swimming since testing began.

Suspicions of a state-sponsored doping programme boiled over at the world championships last September. Zhou Ming, the assistant head coach, responded: "You ask me questions about doping because of misunderstanding and jealousy. It's a sort of political thing. The sports world had always been the domain of Western people. They just can't tolerate Asian people being good at sport."

He also invited any Western journalist to go over to China, to visit training camps, and to see how straight and honest and downright tough the Chinese method really was.

The challenge was taken up by Phil Whitten, the editor of one of the sport's leading specialist magazines, *Swimming World*.

A lengthy correspondence on schedules, times, locations, interviews, interpreters, etc. etc. has just ended with a letter from the Chinese Swimming Association. It read: "I'm very sorry to notify you that your planned visit, which has been repeatedly postponed, will have to be cancelled altogether."

The reasons given were (1): too much domestic competition, leading to a shortage of available working staff; and (2): unwillingness to meet some of Whitten's requests for visits and interviews.

Whitten said: "I guess it's OK to visit if you agree to be shepherded around, like the International Olympic Committee and Fina [the international swimming federation]. That way you relay the messages you want people to hear . . . China never intended to let Western journalists take an honest look at her so-called training methods."

Testing credulity

Meanwhile, Fina made a recent visit to a Chinese dope-testing station. The tour began after an unexplained delay. The report of the visit states: "Practically every testing station was occupied, but they were working with no samples in view. Computers were all on, but no data appeared to be tested. The printers were not printing; the entire staff filed out of the building as soon as we left."

Kids' stuff

God's-in-his-heaven section: Ben Watson, aged 11, has just set an all-time record for King's College School, Cambridge. Playing for the prep school under-11 cricket side against its deadly choir school rivals, St John's, he hit 153 in 90 minutes, with 25 boundaries. He also took six for 44, but he has done better since, with hauls of eight for 28 and seven for 12. So far this season, he has 43 wickets at an average of 3.97, and a strike rate of a wicket every two overs.

Just for kicks

The world is wondering how Eric Cantona, the poor man's Diego, is filling in the long hours till he is next permitted to play football. Naturally, this column can reveal all. He is being a film star, of course. He has taken a part in a film to be called *Le bonheur est dans le pré* (or *Happiness is in the Field*, if you prefer). It is the story of an individualist who abandons the hard world of commerce for the good old simple life. No, Eric is not that individualist, but the fiancé of the individualist's daughter, who lives with the family on the farm and who loves sport. At last, Bruce Lee has an heir!

Going strong

We have been hearing a lot of late about how amazing it is that Linford Christie still competes at 35. Recently, the old boy was doing his bit for his club at a division one meeting. There, doing the pole vault for Blackheath Harriers, was Jim Day, aged 61. He finished fourth. Consider Linford utterly upstaged.

New goals

This is one of those letter-of-the-week sort of weeks, and so I am delighted to send Eddie Oxley a bottle of Chateau de Sours grown-up rosé for a soupçon of summer. He writes to nominate Alan Fettis, of Hull City, as goalkeeper of the year. Mr Oxley reports that Fettis made his first outfield appearance for Hull City in the second division match against Oxford United on December 17. Coming on as an eightieth-minute substitute, he immediately converted a near-post corner to secure a 3-1 victory. His second outfield appearance was a full 90 minutes in the final game of the season, at Blackpool. You've guessed it, he scored again, a winner with the last kick of the season. Can there be any goalkeeper in the world to match goal-a-game Fettis? Mr Oxley thinks not.

[illegible]

CRICKET

First Cornhill Insurance Test match
11.0, third day of five, 90 overs minimum
HEADINGLEY: England v West Indies

Britannic Assurance
county championship
11.0, third day of four, 110 overs minimum
CHELMSFORD: Essex v Durham
CANTERBURY: Kent v Gloucestershire
OLD TRAFFORD: Lancashire v Glamorgan
NOTTINGHAM: Nottinghamshire v *Worcestershire*
THE OVAL: Surrey v Somerset
EDGBASTON: Warwickshire v Sussex

Other match
11.30, second day of three
FENNER'S: Cambridge University v Middlesex

FOOTBALL

Umbro Cup
Sweden v *Japan* .... (City Ground, Nottingham, 2.0)

EUROPEAN UNDER-21 CHAMPIONSHIP: Qualifying group six: Ireland v Austria (Richmond Park, Dublin, 7.0).

TOULON UNDER-21 TOURNAMENT: Group B: England v Angola (La Seyne, 5.30): Brazil v Malaysia (Draguignan, 5.30).

OTHER SPORT

AMERICAN FOOTBALL: World League: London Monarchs v Scottish Claymores (White Hart Lane, 7.0).

ARCHERY: National Target Championships (Lilleshall).

BOXING: WBO featherweight championship: Steve Robinson (Cardiff, holder) v Fabrizio Cappai (It) (Cardiff). WBO cruiserweight championship (vacant): Carl Thompson (Manchester) v Ralf Rocchigiani (Ger) (Manchester).

CYCLING: Velodrome Open meeting (Manchester).

EQUESTRIAN: Three-day event (Bramham).

GOLF: Amateur Championship (Royal Liverpool).

SPEEDWAY (7.30 unless stated): Premier League: Bradford v Exeter; Cradley Heath v Poole; Eastbourne v Middlesbrough; King's Lynn v Glasgow; Swindon v Ipswich.

TENNIS: *International Open (Beckenham).*

TOMORROW

CRICKET

First Cornhill Insurance Test match
11.0, fourth day of five, 90 overs minimum
HEADINGLEY: England v West Indies

AXA Equity & Law League
2.0, 40 overs
DERBY: Derbyshire v Northamptonshire
CHELMSFORD: Essex v Durham
BASINGSTOKE: Hampshire v Leicestershire
CANTERBURY: Kent v Gloucestershire
OLD TRAFFORD: Lancashire v Glamorgan
TRENT BRIDGE: Nottinghamshire v Worcestershire
THE OVAL: Surrey v Somerset
EDGBASTON: Warwickshire v Sussex

Other match
11.30, final day of three
FENNER'S: Cambridge University v Middlesex

BAIN HOGG TROPHY: Derby: Derbyshire v Durham. Leicester: Leicestershire v Middlesex.

FOOTBALL

Umbro Cup
England v Brazil .... (Wembley, 4.0, all ticket)

European championship
Qualifying group six
Ireland v Austria .... (Dublin, 4.0)

OTHER SPORT

ARCHERY: National target championships (Lilleshall).

EQUESTRIAN: Three-day event (Bramham).

MOTOR SPORT: British touring car championship (Brands Hatch).

SPEEDWAY: FIM world championship overseas final: Coventry (3.0).

TENNIS: International Open (Beckenham).

TRIATHLON: National Olympic distance championships (Windsor, 7.50am).

England ready for close encounter

Battle of back row titans will prove decisive

FROM DAVID HANDS, RUGBY CORRESPONDENT, IN JOHANNESBURG

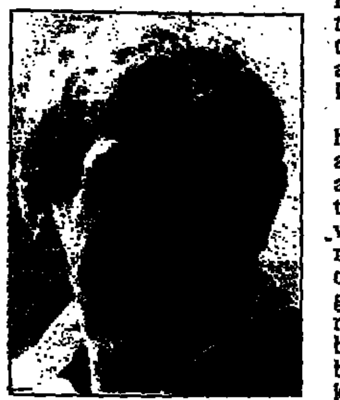
WITHIN 48 hours it is possible to conceive that not one of the four home unions will remain in the Rugby World Cup here in South Africa. Were that to be the case the only representative of the northern hemisphere left standing would be France, who carried the torch so well during the inaugural tournament in 1987.

At a reception in Durban the other week, Sir Ewart Bell, chairman of Rugby World Cup Limited, though careful not to stretch his neutrality, stressed the hope that a northern hemisphere nation would have its name engraved on the Webb Ellis Trophy in the not too distant future so as to emphasise the global nature of the tournament.

So far, the trophy has belonged to New Zealand and Australia, both of whom play their quarter-final matches tomorrow in Pretoria and Cape Town, respectively. But the heavyweight contest is that between Australia and England in Cape Town, where Brian Moore, the aggressive, pugnacious and argumentative hooker capped 61 times by England, neither contemplates defeat against Australia — nor, perhaps, retiring. Having expressed the intention to do so three months ago, Moore has talked over his future with Jack Rowell, England's manager, and may yet be seen in first-class rugby next season.

For now, however, Moore will be at the sharp end of a team that has rediscovered the self-confidence so evident during the five nations' championship, a team that believes it can impose a varied game upon the 1991 winners. Mind you, Australia have been making very similar noises to England after both countries came through their pool matches stuttering like a car short of fuel.

According to Bob Dwyer, the articulate Australia coach, tomorrow's clash could be the match of the tournament. He does not mean one full of open, flowing rugby — "I do not necessarily equate 'good' with 'open'," he said this week — but he does expect a well-contested encounter replete with high-quality play.



Richards: in vital role

It is one that England, for all their occasional fallibility in the matter of scoring tries, have the capacity to win but they will only do so if the management has the right back row. A meeting between Tim Rodber, who early in the tournament was suffering from a stomach ailment, and Willie Ofahengaue promises to be, in that oft-used antipodean expression "awesome" and, if the Australian front row is creaking as badly as some have suggested, then Rodber may have that precious extra second in which to play.

Dean Richards may remember an occasion in Sydney four years ago when Tim Gavin ran him ragged. Richards's well-being is vital to the inner confidence of England, in respect of tactical direction and his ability to deny Australia loose possession. Then there is Ben Clarke, the No 8 turned open-side flanker, against the genuine open side, David Wilson.

If Clarke discovers the form he showed for the British Isles against the 1993 All Blacks, we are in for a treat. England will then have a platform from which Rob Andrew, who has missed only three place kicks out of 15 here, can control the game against a side bearing so many similarities to England: both seek a structured game, both have outstanding goal kickers, outstanding centres, world-class wings.

Yes, what about David Campese, who could not resist this week a few incautious comments about the opposition? The leading try-scorer in the 1991 tournament, he has yet to make his mark here, while Rory Underwood has registered three tries: 90 caps play 82, 63 tries confront 46.

"It will be a long time before England have such a talented group of individuals assembled together," Rowell said. "We must aspire to see that talent released on the field. To go and play international rugby successfully, which they have done, is a huge challenge to individual talent and rugby skill and you must have the mental equipment to go with it. This England team has become the nation's team and the game now goes well beyond those who actually play it. It has caught the national imagination."

Neither team can contemplate defeat. It would be a crushing blow, capable of ending some distinguished careers, either through retirement or the well-laden Rugby League purse. Dwyer is confident the strength of the Australian game will beat off the predators.

Yet sport is fickle — the bounce of a ball one way rather than another, a pass going to ground, a kick inches wide could turn the game at Newlands tomorrow. It is that close.

TOMORRO[illegible]

ENGLAND		AUSTRALIA
M J Catt (Bath)	15	M Burke (New South Wales)
T Underwood (Leicester)	14	D P Smith (Queensland)
W D C Carling (Harlequins)*	13	J S Little (Queensland)
P J C Guscott (Bath)	12	T J Horan (Queensland)
R Underwood (Leicester/RAF)	11	D I Campese (New South Wales)
C R Andrew (Wasps)	10	M P Lynagh (Queensland)*
C D Morris (Orrell)	9	G M Gregan (ACT)
J Leonard (Harlequins)	1	D J Crowley (Queensland)
B C Moore (Bath)	2	P N Kearns (New South Wales)
V E Ubogu (Bath)	3	E J A McKenzie (NSW)
T A K Rodber (Northampton/Army)	6	V Ofahengaue (New South Wales)
M O Johnson (Leicester)	4	R J McCall (Queensland)
M C Bayfield (Northampton)	5	J A Eales (Queensland)
B B Clarke (Bath)	7	D J Wilson (Queensland)
D Richards (Leicester)	8	B T Gavin (New South Wales)

Referee: D J Bishop (New Zealand)

* captain

REPLACEMENTS: 16 J E B Callard (Bath), 17 P R de Glanville (Bath), 18 K P P Bracken (Bristol), 19 S O Ojomoh (Bath), 20 R G R Dawe (Bath), 21 G C Rowntree (Leicester).

REPLACEMENTS: 16 M J Pini (Queensland), 17 S Bowen (New South Wales), 18 P J Slattery (Queensland), 19 D Manu (New South Wales), 20 M Foley (Queensland), 21 M N Hartill (New South Wales).

Wings aim to cast their mercurial spells

Gerald Davies on the magical but contrasting qualities of rivals whose duel tomorrow could determine a World Cup quarter-final

What is it that enchants about rugby, a sport so muscular, so hard and unflinching, which encourages the large and the small, the lean and the squat, the swift and the slow, but in which the eye is invariably drawn to the shoulder-to-shoulder confrontation? Rugby need not — should not — be confined to this. It *can* be a magical sport, and there *are* those with the capacity to enchant: those with wings on their heels.

Tomorrow, at Newlands, where England play Australia in the quarter-finals of the World Cup, two of the finest players of their generation, perhaps of any generation, oppose each other in a tantalising duel. If the chance comes their way, they will declare not only their cleverness but also their differences. Rarely have two such magnificent exponents of the wing threequarters game contrasted so acutely in their talents than Rory Underwood and David Campese.

This divergence of styles has its echoes in days gone by. In Campese's ingenious camp we might find the rare *legerdemain* of Peter Jackson, or the feint and dazzle of David Duckham, also of England; or, less well-known, Maurice Richards, of Wales. The genuine tricksters are few. On the other side, equipped with more speed, we would find Tony O'Reilly, of Ireland, Arthur Smith, of Scotland, Ken Jones, of Wales, or Prince Oblensky, of England.

But, as ever, we must live in hope that we shall catch sight of the wing's abundant gifts tomorrow. We cannot be certain, as we would be of a flanker, for Underwood and Campese are destined to exist more often than not in the far-flung margins of the game; bystanders upon whom so much of rugby's teeming life hardly touches. The ascetic hermits of rugby, Jonah Lomu notwithstanding, they seem resigned to be observers as the behemoths in the distance do battle.

Their careers have almost run parallel. Campese, the Australian, began at 20 against New Zealand in 1982; Underwood, who will be 32 five days before the World Cup final, first appeared for England in 1984, against Ireland. Campese holds the Australian records of 90 caps and 63 tries; Underwood has the English record of 76 caps and 45 tries (he has also scored one in six appearances for the British Isles). Campese has also scored eight conversions, seven penalty goals and two dropped goals.

One can imagine Campese occupying any one of the positions in the back division. He has played 16 times at full back, and is a superb line kicker. Campese is the all-rounder, Underwood the specialist: one the ball-player, the other the quintessential sprinter. The Englishman may not rival the Australian for invention, but the latter cannot match the former for pace.

Underwood can outstrip a defence with his effortless rhythm, easing his speed to lull the defensive cover, only to then release his acceleration again in one unbroken surge. Campese's try against Wales in 1992, in the dying seconds in Cardiff, came close to emulating Underwood's style, but usually he utilises one of his many tricks, like his "goose-step" to bamboozle the tackler. Underwood glides; Campese performs in fits and starts. When Underwood, as a Lion in 1993, scored the only try in his team's victory in the second international in Wellington, he had no need to resort to anything other than the racer's precision to reach the line.

If Underwood guards his corridor, ten yards in from the touchline, then Campese prowls, believing the whole pitch to be his domain. In the 1991 World Cup semi-final against the All Blacks in Dublin, for instance, Campese abandoned his position on the right wing, went searching for gaps on the left, and scored the first, critical try. In this way, Campese lures his prey into a trap, teasing them into a false move, whereas Underwood throws down the gauntlet and offers a straight challenge.

Their position is the most exposed on the field. A mistake, and there is little chance to redress it. Passing the ball over Jonathan Webb's head in 1989 to let Mike Hall in for a try, and miscalculating Ieuan Evans's pace in 1993, Underwood cost England dear. To make amends, he scored twice in Cardiff earlier this year. Evans was also the player who embarrassed Campese in 1989 when the Lions wing took advantage of his lapse in the second international in Brisbane to score the try that opened the door for a series victory. In the opening match of this World Cup, he allowed Hendriks half a yard too far, which let in the South Africa wing.

But there is no perfection in sport, only moments of distinction. In any appreciation of Underwood and Campese we need to accentuate the positive, of which there is much, and eliminate the negative, of which there is little. One is incisively clinical, the other reveals bold and unorthodox improvisation. The classicist versus the romantic, if you like. There is a glorious defiance in Campese's play in the way he chooses to take the sportsman's chance. He asks questions of rugby's routine possibilities as much as of the range of his own talent. Underwood acknowledges the limits and plays expertly within them. Both have fulfilled their talents and have thus adorned the game. And enchanted us.

They have held their dignity, the RAF pilot and the Sydney sports shop owner, neither raising an arm in anger nor staring with a threatening eye. You can make your choice. Both have found their place in the sun.

Never-say-die Ireland can rise to big occasion

FROM GERALD DAVIES
IN DURBAN

IRELAND play France at ten past one local time this afternoon in the first of the 1995 rugby World Cup quarter-finals. The first thing that will have struck them when they arrived here in Durban on Thursday is the change of conditions. After their period at altitude, they are now at sea level. The climate is warm and heavy with humidity.

Three of France's matches took place in the coolness of early evening, while Ireland also played twice under floodlights. They may feel more comfortable knowing that it is less difficult to adapt to coming down from 5,000ft than if it were the other way round. But it will not be easy.

Calculations and permuations, the Russian roulette of possible chances, are gone. We have now arrived at the do-or-die bit; there is no second chance.

So, before we accept the multitude of opinion that seems overwhelmingly to favour France, bear in mind that, when the big moment comes and persistent, undying effort is called for, nobody responds better than the Irish.

Time and again they summon up the quickening spirit. They stubbornly refuse to submit when logic suggests, and the pundits predict. They do this annually in the five nations' championship.

Write them off, then, at your peril. Oh, and did I hear someone say that the European championship is different? So it is, as that rugby pilgrimage moves from one city to the next over a three-month period.

But cast your mind back to October 20, 1991. That was the day that Ireland, at this same stage in the World Cup, scared mightier opponents than France. With but a couple of minutes to go against the ultimate victors, Australia, a dramatic try by Hamilton, the No 8, running fully 40 metres, took Ireland into the lead. They were within a hair's breadth of a semi-final place.

They might have made it, too, had they, from Australia's restart, found a secure spot for the ball somewhere in the upper reaches of the stand. Instead, the Wallabies, showing great composure, manufactured a try for Lynagh to steal the game.

Pierre Berbizier, the French coach, admits that he is far from confident. His team shows three changes, with Armary coming in at prop, Cecillion for the injured Benetton at No 8 and Hueber at scrum half, from the one that defeated Scotland and it is far from cohesive. The other day, the coach took the "three trees", as he calls Cabannes, Roumat and Merle, through the recording of that game to show them where they were and where, in fact, they should have been.

France have lacked momentum among their forwards throughout this tournament and have relied too much on the individual spark, like that of N'Tamack, to advance their cause thus far.

Thus, there is contrast. Ireland, with O'Mahony for Wallace as the one change from the Welsh game, will look for a frenetic, binding commitment from the pack to disturb the French. But Johns, McBride and Francis in the forwards and Elwood at stand-off half will surely not find the French as accommodatingly supine as were Wales.

TODAY'S TEAMS IN DURBAN

FRANCE		IRELAND
J-L Sadourny (Colomiers)	15	C M P O'Shea (Lansdowne)
E N'Tamack (Toulouse)	14	D O'Mahony (UCD)
P Sella (Agen)	13	B J Mullin (Blackrock College)
T Lacroix (Dax)	12	J C Bell (Ballymena)
P Saint-André (Montferrand)*	11	S P Geoghegan (Bath)
C Deylaud (Toulouse)	10	E P Elwood (Lansdowne)
A Hueber (Toulon)	9	N A Hogan (Terenure College)
L Armary (Lourdes)	1	N J Popplewell (Wasps)
J-M Gonzales (Bayonne)	2	T J Kingston (Dolphin)*
C Califano (Toulouse)	3	G F Halpin (London Irish)
A Benazzi (Agen)	6	D Corkery (Cork Constitution)
O Merle (Montferrand)	4	G M Fulcher (Cork Constitution)
O Roumat (Dax)	5	N P J Francis (Old Belvedere)
L Cabannes (Racing)	7	W D McBride (Malone)
M Cécillon (Bourgoin)	8	P S Johns (Dungannon)

Referee: E F Morrison (England)

* captain

REPLACEMENTS: 16 F Mesnel (Racing), 17 Y Delaigue (Toulon), 18 F Galthié (Colomiers), 19 A Cigagna (Toulouse), 20 P Gallart (Béziers), 21 L Benezech (Racing).

REPLACEMENTS: 16 P P A Danaher (Garryowen), 17 P A Burke (Cork Constitution), 18 M T Bradley (Cork Constitution), 19 E D Halvey (Shannon), 20 P Wallace (Blackrock College), 21 S Byrne (Blackrock College).

TODAY'S TEAMS IN JOHANNESBURG

SOUTH AFRICA		WESTERN SAMOA
A J Joubert (Natal)	15	M Umaga (Wellington)
G K Johnson (Transvaal)	14	B Lima (Ponsonby)
C P Scholtz (Transvaal)	13	T Vaega (Moataa)
J C Mulder (Transvaal)	12	T Fa'amasino (Vaimoso)
C M Williams (Western Province)	11	G Harder (Te Atatu)
H P le Roux (Transvaal)	10	F Sini (Marist)
J H van der Westhuizen (N T'vaal)	9	T Nu'uali'itia (Waitemata)
P du Randt (Orange Free State)	1	M Mika (Otago)
C L C Rossouw (Transvaal)	2	T Leiasamaivao (Moataa)
S Swart (Transvaal)	3	G Latu (Vaimoso)
J F Pienaar (Transvaal)*	6	S Tatupu (Ponsonby)
J J Wiese (Transvaal)	4	L Falaniko (Marist)
M G Andrews (Natal)	5	S Lemamea (SCOPA)
R J Kruger (Northern Transvaal)	7	P Paramore (Manurewa)
R A W Straeuli (Transvaal)	8	P Lam (Marist)*

Referee: J M Fleming (Scotland)

* captain

REPLACEMENTS: 16 J Small (Natal), 17 B Venter (Orange Free State), 18 J P Roux (Transvaal), 19 A Richter (Northern Transvaal), 20 G L Pagel (Western Province), 21 N Drotske (Orange Free State)

REPLACEMENTS: 16 F Tulagi (Marist), 17 V Vitale (Vaiala), 18 S Vitale (Marist), 19 S Kaleta (Marist), 20 B Reidy (Marist), 21 P Fatialofa (Manurewa).

Samoans vow to avoid humiliation

FROM DAVID HANDS
IN JOHANNESBURG

SOUTH Africa can now recoup the benefit of victory in the opening match of the World Cup: leadership of pool A has brought them through to a quarter-final with the battered Western Samoans at Ellis Park here, the ground where 13 of them shared a national record victory by 60-8 over the same opponents in April.

Indeed Kitch Christie, their coach, might almost have welcomed the diversions of the past week (had they not been so extremely painful to South Africa) as a means of shaking his players out of any sense of complacency. As it is, the team must shrug off the loss through suspension of Pieter Hendriks and James Dalton, and the ludicrous sense of sympathy which has been felt in some quarters for them, and get on with the tournament.

That the team is expected to win is in no doubt, nor should it be. The Samoans, nine of whom played here in April, have patched up their side yet still take the field wondering how long George Harder, who has a damaged knee, will last on the left wing and whether Junior Paramore can ignore the pain of a hairline fracture to the hand at flanker.

"There is a sense of confidence within the players that they can cope," Tate Simi, the Samoan manager, said. "We are out to absolve ourselves after that humiliation in April." If the power of prayer can help, then the Samoans — devout people who hold a prayer meeting after each game — should not be discounted but the sheer size and strength of their opponents must surely mean another successful World Cup is about to end, as it did at the same stage against Scotland in 1991.

If April is any guide, however, they will take a few with them. Four South Africans wound up in hospital, among them Chester Williams who only now returns to international rugby, a symbol of a united nation.

His contest with Brian Lima should be worth the entrance money, so long as the Samoans can work some ball to their right wing, but today may be the occasion for South Africa to increase their modest average of two tries a match.

This quarter-final is also the chosen venue for the International Olympic Committee's medical director, Patrice Schamasch, who arrived yesterday to assess the drug-testing programme being carried out by the World Cup authorities.

"If this event is run well it will augur well for South Africa when consideration is given to the summer Olympics of 2004," Michael Anderson, whose Kent-based company, Versapak International, is running the testing programme, said. "It pleases me, for the sake of rugby, that it has gone well thus far and it also pleases me for the sake of South Africa."

The perfect appetizer for frogs' legs.

PURE GENIUS

Godolphin team celebrates consecutive Oaks triumph

Moonshell proves classic point

By Julian Muscat

JULIAN HERBERT

Moonshell stays on resolutely to deny Dance A Dream in the Oaks at Epsom yesterday

THE OAKS has become something of a talisman for Sheikh Mohammed. Very confident in advance of yesterday's renewal, his judgment proved sound as *Moonshell* got the better of a protracted duel with Dance A *Dream and* Pure Grain in the Vodafone-sponsored classic.

Moonshell's victory followed 12 months *after that of* Balanchine in the same colours, once again emphasising the already forceful impression that Godolphin's Dubai stables make for favourable winter quarters. However, what could not have been envisaged is that horses based in Dubai do not forfeit their early physical advantage.

BIG-RACE DETAILS

4.00 VODAFONE OAKS (Group 1: 3-Y-O fillies: £147,800: 1m 4f 10yd)

MOONSHELL b f Sadler's Wells - Moon Cactus (Maktoum Al Maktoum/Godolphin) 9-0 L Dettori (3-1) 1

Dance A Dream b f Sadler's Wells - Exclusive Order (Cheveley Park Stud) 9-0 W R Swinburn (14-1) 2

Pure Grain b f Polish Precedent - Mill Line (R Barnett) 9-0 J Reid (7-2) 3

ALSO RAN: 6-4 fav Aqaarid (6th), 20 Asterita (5th), 25 Bint Zamayem, Bunting, 33 Kshessinskaya, Musetta (4th), 200 Last Spin. 10 ran. 1¼l, ¾l, 3½l, 2½l, 1¾l. Saeed bin Suroor at Newmarket. Tote: £3.70; £1.80, £2.00, £1.80. DF: £12.60. Trio: £25.70. CSF £37.55.

Rather the opposite; they positively thrive on their arrival in Britain.

There was no logical reason *why Moonshell should have* beaten Aqaarid, who proved her superior in the 1,000 Guineas five weeks ago. Yet Aqaarid, whose exemplary juvenile form came on easy ground, never looked happy on the surface yesterday.

While Lanfranco Dettori *manoeuvred Moonshell as he* wished, Willie Carson did little else but push and squeeze Aqaarid round the cambers of this unique racecourse. Her fifth place was most disappointing.

As Simon Crisford, racing manager to Godolphin, said: "You could call *Moonshell the* winner six furlongs out but *she had to dig very deep." That* was because of the persistent attentions of Dance A Dream, who refused to submit to Moonshell's charge three furlongs from the finish.

Pure Grain, a stablemate of *Dance A Dream, looked briefly* menacing on the outside but *the die was cast some way out.* "I thought I should stretch them five furlongs out," said a beaming Dettori. "This filly has lots of class."

She may now attempt to follow in Balanchine's footsteps in the *Irish Derby.* Dettori then added a rejoiner *which illustrated how set we* in British have become in our *assessment of racehorses.* "It's incredible she can do that on only her third race," he ventured.

But Moonshell has not been prepared in the British way. Her racing inexperience has been effectively countered *by* her training programme in *Dubai, where she has regularly* galloped round a tight, left-handed oval. "We knew lack of experience wasn't going to be a problem," Crisford indicated.

Who can now dismiss with confidence *Vettori* and Lammtarra, the Godolphin *duo, from Derby contention.* Lammtarra has but one solitary outing to his name. And it has become common knowledge that Vettori, a veritable veteran of three starts, showed too much dash for Moonshell in a gallop ten days ago.

However, over seven fur*longs, as the gallop was* measured, Vettori's natural speed *would prove a handful for* any horse, never mind one with Moonshell's middle-distance pedigree. Lammtarra mirrors Moonshell in this respect, although it will be a remarkable achievement if either colt could land *the Blue* Riband.

The final word is best left to *Sheikh Mohammed,* whose attacting philosophy has reaped him such a rich harvest. Surveying Epsom from the winner's rostrum, he declared of the home of the Derby: "I don't know why trainers are complaining about the track it is perfect." *The man certainly knows his* history.

Nap: SAMBA SHARPLY
(3.15 Haydock Park)

Next best: Lucky Lionel
(2.00 Epsom)

Richard Evans opened the Derby meeting in grand style at Epsom yesterday by napping Yoush (8-1).

Tikkanen to lift Coronation Cup for France

EPSOM

CHANNEL 4

2.00: Lucky Lionel is a confident choice to get Derby Day punters off to a flying start. Richard Hannon's colt quickened in impressive style when winning over five furlongs at Newmarket, and today's extra furlong should pose no problems. Gothenberg *is* progressing well, having beaten *six previous winners at* Newcastle last time.

2.35: *An above average running* of the Coronation Cup. Carnegie, last *year's* Arc winner, could be worth opposing on his seasonal reappearance. *The logical choice is* Only Royale, who had *Tikkanen and Time Star in* her wake when winning a slowly run Jockey Club Stakes at Newmarket, but a form reversal could be on the cards here and **Tikkanen** is the choice. The likelihood of a stronger run race and the fast ground can give Jonathan *Pease his first group success* here.

3.05 In a tricky handicap, Aljazzaf can bounce back to winning form provided the *ground remains* fast. Reg Akehurst's tough gelding looked in need of his seasonal debut at Goodwood and can be expected to step up on that *form. With most of the other* runners needing to be held up, Richard Quinn can dominate affairs from the front. Sherman has only been raised 4lb for beating Marsoom (won since) at York, but may prefer slightly easier ground. Green Crusader beat Aljazzaf and Sherman at Newbury last year but goes *best on softer going.*

3.50: See page 42.

4.30: Jockeyship matters more than usual in the apprentices' Derby and punters should latch on to the very *capable David McCabe, who* rides David Thom's progressive handicapper, **Ball Gown**. Winner of four races last term, including over the undulating tracks at Chepstow and Salisbury, she has looked as good as ever this term, winning under today's rider over 12 furlongs at Doncaster last month. Oth*ers for the short list are last* year's winner, Dancing Sensation, and Endless Light.

Richard Evans

TODAY'S RACES ON TELEVISION

THUNDERER

2.10 Sparrowhawk. 2.40 Gloriana. 3.15 Leif The Lucky. 4.10 Jawaal. 4.40 Taipan. 5.15 Evening Chime. 5.45 Slasher Jack.

GOING: GOOD TO SOFT SIS

DRAW: 5F, HIGH NUMBERS BEST

2.10 HALSALL MAIDEN STAKES

(3-Y-O: £3,935: 1m 30yd) (9 runners)

1	(2)		BARRANAK Mrs M McCourt 9-0	P Robinson	—
2	(7)	0	KARAAR 20 J Sosden 9-0	G Hind	81
3	(5)	20	MITHRAIC 44 J Watts 9-0	N Connorton	73
4	(4)		MONUMENT R Charlton 9-0	T Sprake	—
5	(1)	3	NORTHERN TROVE 22 G Moore 9-0	M Tebbutt	92
6	(3)	66	CORYANA DANCER 14 R Hollinshead 8-9	Paul Eddery	74
7	(9)		HAMSAAT B Hanbury 8-9	W Ryan	—
8	(8)	60-4	SPARROWHAWK 25 B Hills 8-9	J Weaver	[illegible]
9	(6)	00-	TRYPH 259 J Berry 8-9	J Carroll	70

2-1 Sparrowhawk, 9-4 Monument, 7-2 Northern Trove, 7-1 Hamsaat, 10-1 Mithraic, 12-1 others.

2.40 SUNDAY EXPRESS SERIES HANDICAP

(£3,675: 1m 2f 120yd) (9)

1	(5)	10-0	ADOLESCENCE 64 (G) K McAuliffe 5-9-10	M Tebbutt	91
2	(6)	-100	WESTERN GENERAL 10 (S) S Hall 4-9-8	P Robinson	97
3	(7)	060-	COLWAY ROCK 240 (G,S) J Watts 5-9-7	G Duffield	90
4	(8)	-000	WINDRUSH LADY 22 (D,G,S) M McCormack 5-9-2	M Perrett	85
5	(2)	505/	REDSTELLA 849 (S) R Whitaker 6-9-1	Dale Gibson	—
6	(1)	00-3	MY LEARNED FRIEND 14 (F) A Hide 4-9-0	J Williams	96
7	(3)	-011	COLORFUL AMBITION 11 (G,F) Mrs A Swinbank 5-8-11	N Connorton	96
8	(4)	00-0	BEAUMONT 11 (D,F,S) J Pearce 5-8-9	J Weaver	85
9	(9)	60-2	GLORIANA 23 Lady Herries 3-8-3	W Ryan	[illegible]

3-1 Colorful Ambition, 7-2 My Learned Friend, 9-2 Adolescence, 6-1 Beaumont, 11-2 Colway Rock, 7-1 Gloriana, 12-1 others.

3.15 ROTHMANS ROYALS NORTH SOUTH CHALLENGE HANDICAP (£7,103: 1m 30yd) (12)

1	(4)	0514	CELESTIAL KEY 14 (C,F) M Johnston 5-10-0	P Robinson	[illegible]
2	(7)	0-60	GYMCRAK PREMIERE 22 (D,F,G,S) G Holmes 7-9-8	G Duffield	92
3	(5)	0603	BAND ON THE RUN 10 (C,D) B McMahon 8-9-7	J Weaver	95
4	(12)	60-0	FOREVER DIAMONDS 10 (CD,F,G,S) M H Easterby 8-9-6	J Carroll	90
5	(11)	0000	MASTER BEVELED 16 (CD,F,G,S) P Evans 5-9-5	Paul Eddery	98
6	(8)	0-40	LEIF THE LUCKY 43 (D,G,S) Miss S Hall 6-9-2	N Connorton	97
7	(10)	4403	CELESTIAL CHOIR 7 (CD,F) J Eyre 5-8-11	S Williams	95
8	(1)	0102	SANDMOOR CHAMBRAY 10 (B,F,G) M H Easterby 4-8-9	M Birch	96
9	(8)	1060	MISTY SILKS 12 (D,G,S) M Ryan 5-8-9	A Clark	98
10	(2)	21-0	SAMBA SHARPLY 20 (D,F,S) A Hide 4-8-8	J Williams	93
11	(3)	0-00	IN GOOD FAITH 23 (D,F,S) J Quinn 3-8-1	G Hind	96
12	(6)	01	BRAVE PRINCESS 14 (G) M Jarvis 3-7-10	Dale Gibson	95

3-1 Brave Princess, 9-2 Band On The Run, 5-1 Celestial Key, 11-2 Gymcrak Premiere, 6-1 Celestial Choir, 7-1 Sandmoor Chambray, 10-1 others.

4.10 FIRSTEEL GROUP JOHN OF GAUNT STAKES

(Listed race: £14,070: 7f 30yd) (8)

1	(7)	-211	JAWAAL 24 (D,F,G) Lady Herries 5-9-3	W Ryan	87
2	(1)	6010	MOCCASIN RUN 24 (B,CD,F,G) I Balding 4-9-3	M Hills	87
3	(4)	2862	BRANSTON ABBY 7 (D,S) M Johnston 6-8-12	J Weaver	[illegible]
4	(6)	50-2	EVERGLADES 18 (CD,F,G) R Charlton 7-8-12	Paul Eddery	94
5	(3)	-063	JAFEICA 7 (D,G,S) R Hannon 4-8-12	J Carroll	89
6	(8)	6-34	MUTAKDDIM 20 (D,F,S) J Gosden 4-8-12	G Hind	98
7	(2)	46-4	CARRANITA 15 (D,G,S) B Palling 5-8-7	T Sprake	92
8	(5)	1-51	INZAR 20 (D,F,S) P Cole 3-8-2	A Clark	93

3-1 Everglades, 7-2 Jawaal, 9-2 Mutakddim, 5-1 Branston Abby, Inzar, 8-1 Carranita, 9-1 Moccasin Run, 10-1 Jafeica.

4.40 DOUGLAS RATED HANDICAP

(3-Y-O: £7,938: 1m 2f 120yd) (7)

1	(4)	2852	HEATHYARDS ROCK 19 (BF,G) R Hollinshead 9-3	W Ryan	94
2	(7)	1-04	TAIPAN 25 (S) J Dunlop 8-11	J Weaver	93
3	(1)	1301	CLIFTON FOX 12 (F,G) J Glover 8-6	M Birch	[illegible]
4	(5)	10-0	MADE IN HEAVEN 44 (G,S) J Hills 8-5	M Hills	90
5	(2)	0-30	ROMIOS 14 (S) P Cole 8-5	C Rutter	97
6	(6)	1-00	STICKS AND STONES 14 (G) Mrs J Cecil 8-4	Paul Eddery	98
7	(3)	2-41	FRANCFURTER 34 (D,F) R Charlton 8-0	T Sprake	97

9-4 Francfurter, 9-2 Taipan, Clifton Fox, Heathyards Rock, 6-1 others.

5.15 EBF LEYLAND MAIDEN STAKES

(2-Y-O: £4,163: 5f) (9)

1	(3)	2	DASHING BLUE 17 I Balding 9-0	W Ryan	95
2	(9)		DOMINO FLYER Mrs A Swinbank 9-0	N Connorton	—
3	(2)	22	EVENING CHIME 12 Mrs J Ramsden 9-0	J Weaver	[illegible]
4	(5)	22	LARGHETTO 17 (BF)(G) J Berry 9-0	J Carroll	98
5	(6)		RON'S GEM W Haigh 9-0	Dale Gibson	—
6	(4)		SEPOY C Thornton 9-0	M Tebbutt	—
7	(8)		BLUE IRIS M Jarvis 8-9	P Robinson	—
8	(7)		ROLLIN JOANNE M H Easterby 8-9	M Birch	—
9	(1)		ISLAY BROWN W Elsey 8-9	G Duffield	—

5-2 Dashing Blue, 3-1 Evening Chime, 7-2 Blue Iris, Larghetto, 7-1 others.

5.45 PENNY LANE HANDICAP (£5,784: 1m 6f) (8)

1	(4)	204-	DOVER PATROL 225 (CD,G,S) H Cecil 5-10-0	W Ryan	93
2	(7)	51/	ROBINGO 470J (G) Mrs L Murphy 6-9-12	Dale Gibson	—
3	(5)	2-22	SWALLOWS DREAM 14 (F) J Dunlop 4-9-8	J Weaver	97
4	(6)	0081	SLASHER JACK 33 (C,F,G) S Norton 4-9-6	P Robinson	[illegible]
5	(8)	00-3	PURPLE SPLASH 70 (B,D,S) P Makin 5-9-3	A Clark	96
6	(1)	-214	MIDYAN BLUE 14 (C,D,G) J Eustace 5-8-11	M Tebbutt	98
7	(3)	10-5	CUMBRIAN RHAPSODY 16 (CD,G,S) M H Easterby 5-8-6	M Birch	97
8	(2)	3-34	WHITE WILLOW 42 (V,D,G,S) Mrs M Reveley 6-8-5	N Connorton	97

3-1 Dover Patrol, 4-1 Slasher Jack, 9-2 White Willow, 5-1 Swallows Dream, Purple Splash, 6-1 others.

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS: H Cecil, 19 winners from 51 runners, 37.3%; J Gosden, 21 from 78, 26.9%; J Dunlop, 19 from 81, 23.5%; B Hills, 14 from 61, 23.0%; J Hills, 3 from 15, 20.0%; Mrs M Reveley, 10 from 53, 18.9%.

JOCKEYS: M Hills, 19 winners from 84 rides, 22.6%; W Ryan, 23 from 129, 17.8%; Paul Eddery, 13 from 74, 17.6%; G Duffield, 11 from 78, 14.1%; N Connorton, 4 from 30, 13.3%; J Weaver, 9 from 79, 11.4%.

THUNDERER

6.40 Stalled. 7.10 Bedevil. 7.40 Fairy Wind. 8.10 Rose Of Cadence. 8.40 Rory. 9.05 Maid For The Hills.

GOING: GOOD DRAW: NO ADVANTAGE SIS

6.40 NEWMARKET LADIES DERBY (Handicap: amateurs: £5,049: 1m 4f) (22 runners)

1	2030	*AUGUSTAN 8 (F) S Gollings 4-11-7*	Mrs J M Gollings (5)	13
2	4-00	THE CHAIRMAN 14 F Jordan 4-11-4	Mrs C Woonacott	15
3	5460	RAPPORTEUR 37 (D,F,G,S) C C Elsey 9-11-0	Miss A Elsey	17
4	3/5-	*SOPHISM 7J M Pipe 6-10-12*	Miss A Harwood	18
5	0005	STALLED 12 (D,G,S) P Walwyn 5-10-11	Marchioness Blandford (5)	22
6	3052	*CHARLIE BIGTIME 10 (V,D,F,G)* D Thom 5-10-10	Miss Diana Jones	11
7	00-5	CASUAL WATER 5 (D,F) A Newcombe 4-10-9	Miss F Burke (5)	7
8	-006	*OUR BESSIE 14 D Marks 4-10-7*	Miss K Marks	3
9	10-0	QUEENS CONTRACTOR 37 (D,F,G) S Mellor 5-10-1	Miss E Joyce (5)	19
10	0-00	*BRESIL 14 K Burke 6-10-1*	Mrs H Sweeting (5)	10
11	40-0	PERSIAN SMOKE 17 A Hide 4-10-1	Miss L Hide	21
12	5/0	JARZON DANCER 22 D Wilson 7-9-13	Mrs D Kettlewell	5
13	60/4	*KALAKATE 38J (D,G) J Bridger 10-9-13*	Miss M Bridger (5)	16
14	0206	REJECTS REPLY 14 W Musson 5-9-9	Mrs L Pearce	20
15	0000	CLANCY'S EXPRESS 12 G Balding 4-9-8	Miss Sarah-Jane Durman (5)	1
16	1523	DON'T DROP BOMBS 85 (V,D,G) D Thom 6-9-7	Miss J Feilden	14
17	0/3	*SIAN WYN 8J K Burke 5-9-5*	Mrs E Burke (5)	2
18	000-	WORKINGFORPEANUTS 12P (V,F) C Smith 5-9-5	Mrs D Smith (5)	4
19	000-	KATIE'S KID 35J M Ahern 5-9-5	Miss E Folkes (5)	9
20	00-0	MARAADY 17 G Enright 6-9-3	Mrs M Enright (5)	6
21	0-06	SWAN FLYER 10 J Sheehan 4-9-3	Miss E J Jones (5)	12
22	0/	THE OIL BARON 1031J R Head 9-9-2	Miss L McIntosh (5)	8

6-1 Charlie Bigtime, 7-1 Sophism, 8-1 Don't Drop Bombs, Augustan, Stalled, 9-1 Our Bessie, 10-1 Sian Wyn, 12-1 Kalakate, 14-1 others.

7.10 CECIL BOYD ROCHFORT MAIDEN STAKES

(£4,152: 2m 24yd) (7)

1	00-0	AMAAM AMAAM 12 W Musson 5-9-0	R Cochrane	1
2	/2-3	*BEDEVIL 16 Mrs J Cecil 5-9-0*	Paul Eddery	6
3	0/	SCENT OF BATTLE 88J M Haynes 7-9-0	G Carter	3
4	-000	SEA FREEDOM 10 G Balding 4-8-13	J Williams	7
5	05	SHARAZI 35 D Cosgrove 4-8-13	M Rimmer	5
6	/66	SHREWD ALIBI 12 I Balding 4-8-13	M Hills	4
7		ANGLESEY SEA VIEW 21J A Bailey 6-8-9	L Dettori	2

7-2 Bedevil, 4-1 Shrewd Alibi, 7-1 Sea Freedom, 8-1 Anglesey Sea View, 12-1 Sharazi, 25-1 Scent Of Battle, Amaam Amaam.

7.40 NGK SPARK PLUGS HANDICAP

(3-Y-O: £6,316: 6f) (10)

1	1415	FAIRY WIND 11 (BF,F,G) N Callaghan 9-7	L Dettori	10
2	1513	TAFAHHUS 9 (D,BF,F) R Armstrong 9-3	B Hills	5
3	0-43	JAWLAAT 32 (D,BF,S) J Dunlop 9-3	W Carson	3
4	24-4	TRIPLE TRICKS 17 W Haggas 8-13	M Hills	6
5	10-0	BEN GUNN 28 (C,D,F,S) P Walwyn 8-13	Pat Eddery	9
6	5-11	CLOETTE 40 (G) W O'Gorman 8-10	Emma O'Gorman	8
7	4480	*CATS BOTTOM 7 (F) D Cosgrove 8-10*	*M Rimmer*	1
8	0502	RYMER'S RASCAL 17 (D,S) E Alston 8-6	P Robinson	7
9	0306	BRECONGILL LAD 11 (B) Miss S Hall 8-6	N Connorton	2
10	006-	SNOW FOOT 280 P Haslam 7-7	*R Mullen (7)*	4

7-2 Jawlaat, 9-2 Rymer's Rascal, 5-1 Fairy Wind, 6-1 Tafahhus, 7-1 Cloette, 8-1 Ben Gunn, 10-1 Brecongill Lad, 12-1 others.

8.10 WALTER EARL SELLING STAKES

(3-Y-O: £4,386: 1m) (9)

1	3-60	MAGICAL BLUES 5 K Ivory 8-11	M Tebbutt	5
2		SASTRUGI S Woods 8-11	W Ryan	2
3		TRY OMNIPOTENT C Allen 8-11	T Ives	4
4	00	AMNESTY BAY 28 J Fanshawe 8-6	D Harrison	8
5	00	INDIAN TREASURE 26 D Cosgrove 8-6	M Rimmer	3
6	-546	LA FILLE DE CIRQUE 109 R Williams 8-6	D Biggs	1
7		MILL DANCER E Alston 8-6	P Robinson	9
8	-585	*OLD SWINFORD 8 B Meehan 8-6*	B Doyle	6
9	020-	ROSE OF CADENCE 306 P Cole 8-6	Pat Eddery	7

3-1 Rose Of Cadence, 7-2 Magical Blues, 9-2 Old Swinford, 5-1 La Fille De Cirque, *8-1 Sastrugi, 10-1 Amnesty Bay, 12-1 Try Omnipotent, 14-1 others.*

8.40 BILLECART-SALMON CHAMPAGNE HANDICAP (£7,570: 1m) (12)

1	-243	MOVING ARROW 18 (G) Miss S Hall 4-10-0	N Connorton	4
2	0433	CASTEL ROSSELO 14 (B,F,G,S) B McMath 5-9-10	A Mackay	7
3	6-53	WILCUMA 18 (D,BF,F,S) P Makin 4-9-8	L Dettori	2
4	-405	RORY 18 (D,F,G) Mrs J Cecil 4-9-5	Paul Eddery	12
5	-002	KHAYRAPOUR 12 (B,BF,F) B Meehan 5-8-13	Pat Eddery	9
6	4-10	DEEVEE 20 (CD,F,G,S) C Benstead 6-8-11	P Robinson	5
7	-010	*BLOCKADE 15 (CD,F,G,S) M Bell 6-8-11*	*M Fenton*	*10*
8	00-0	GYMCRAK FLYER 43 (D,F) G Holmes 4-8-8	G Carter	11
9	0-24	NASHAAT 20 (D,F,G,S) N Walter 7-8-6	R Cochrane	1
10	1030	VIN ST KOOLA 21 (G) R Collingridge 3-8-6	M Rimmer	8
11	-020	SAIFAN 20 (B,CD,F,G) D Morris 6-8-5	A Clark	3
12	4320	HAWWAM 38 (B,F,G,S) E Alston 9-7-7	G Bardwell	6

11-4 Khayrapour, 4-1 Wilcuma, 5-1 Moving Arrow, 6-1 Castel Rosselo, 7-1 Rory, Deevee, 8-1 Nashaat, 10-1 others.

9.05 FRANK BUTTERS MAIDEN FILLIES STAKES

(2-Y-O: £4,503: 6f) (9)

1		ARLINGTON LADY N Callaghan 8-11	M Roberts	1
2	5	CLASSIC FLYER 22 S Williams 8-11	A Mackay	8
3		*DARLING FLAME J Gosden 8-11*	*L Dettori*	*4*
4		FREZELIERE J Dunlop 8-11	W Ryan	5
5		GALINE W O'Gorman 8-11	Emma O'Gorman	2
6		*LEITH ACADEMY B Hills 8-11*	*M Hills*	*9*
7		MAID FOR THE HILLS D Loder 8-11	Pat Eddery	6
8		NOTTONITEJOSEPHINE R Boss 8-11	M Rimmer	7
9		TASLIYA J Dunlop 8-11	W Carson	3

5-4 Maid For The Hills, 9-4 Darling Flame, 5-1 Leith Academy, 7-1 Tasliya, 14-1 Frezeliere, Arlington Lady, 16-1 others.

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS: D Loder, 12 winners from 60 runners, 20.0%; J Gosden, 56 from 331, 16.9%; P Walwyn, 12 from 78, 15.4%; E Alston, 3 from 21, 14.3%; P Cole, 24 from 177, 13.6%; M Bell, 24 from 201, 11.9%; J Dunlop, 25 from 231, 10.8%.

JOCKEYS: Pat Eddery, 94 winners from 483 rides, 19.5%; L Dettori, 70 from 501, 14%; W Carson, 56 from 467, 12.0%; M Hills, 33 from 288, 11.5%; M Fenton, 9 from 80, 11.3%.

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7/2	Spectrum	40/1	Court of Honour
7/1	Munwar	40/1	Salmon Ladder
9/1	Tamure	66/1	Fahal
10/1	Presenting	250/1	Korambi
16/1	Humbel	250/1	Maralinga
16/1	Lammtarra	1000/1	Daffaq
16/1	Vettori		

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EPSOM

THUNDERER

2.00 Lucky Lionel
2.35 Carnegie
3.05 SHERMAN (nap)
3.50 Munwar
4.30 Dancing Sensation
5.00 Silca Blanka
5.30 Shikari's Son

The Times Private Handicapper's top rating: 3.50 PENNEKAMP.

GOING: GOOD TO FIRM (GOOD IN STRAIGHT) SIS

DRAW: 5F, HIGH NUMBERS BEST; 7F, LOW NUMBERS BEST

2.00 VODATA WOODCOTE STAKES

C4

(Listed race: 2-Y-O: £13,810: 6f) (6 runners)

101	(6)	125	WORLD PREMIER 24 (G) (Mrs C Britain) C Britain 9-2	B Doyle	94
102	(5)	2311	*DOUBLE POINT 19 (D,G) (HRH Prince Fahd Salman) M Bell 9-0*	M Fenton	84
103	(3)	311	GOTHENBERG 18 (F,G) (B Yeardley Continental Ltd) M Johnston 9-0	D Holland	[illegible]
104	(1)	01	JOLIS PRESENT 40 (G) (D Thomson) M Ryan 9-0	W Carson	80
105	(4)	1	LUCKY LIONEL 35 (F) (Lucayan Stud) R Hannon 9-0	M J Kinane	93
106	(2)	041	HEVER GOLF EXPRESS 10 (F) (Hever Racing) T Naughton 8-11	Pat Eddery	96

BETTING: 6-4 Lucky Lionel, 5-2 Gothenberg, 5-1 World Premier, 7-1 Double Point, 8-1 Hever Golf Express, 8-1 Jolis Present.

1994: SILCA BLANKA 9-0 Pat Eddery (7-2 jt-fav) M Channon 11 ran

FORM FOCUS

WORLD PREMIER 4¾l 5th of 6 to Dovebrace in *conditions race at York (6f, good). DOUBLE POINT* beat Scathebury ½l in maiden at Wolverhampton (AW, 6f). GOTHENBURG beat Blessingindisguise 1¾l in conditions race at Newcastle (5f, good). LUCKY LIONEL beat Oberons Boy 1¾l in 6-runner *maiden at Newmarket (5f, good to firm). HEVER* GOLF EXPRESS beat Hurricane Dancer 1¾l in 6-runner maiden at Folkestone (5f, good to firm).
Selection: LUCKY LIONEL

2.35 VODAFONE CORONATION CUP

C4

(Group I: £92,520: 1m 4f 10yd) (7 runners)

201	(1)	251111-	*CARNEGIE 251 (G,S) (Sheikh Mohammed) A Fabre (Fr) 4-9-0*	T Jarnet	95
202	(4)	24050-3	ENVIRONMENT FRIEND 20 (F,G) (W Gredley) G Rimmer 7-9-0	M J Kinane	86
203	(6)	25-1632	IONIO 16 (D,F,G) (The Dayspring Company Ltd) C Brittain 4-9-0	M Roberts	81
204	(2)	3031-41	SUNSHACK 16 (D,G,S) (K Abdulla) A Fabre (Fr) 4-9-0	Pat Eddery	84
205	(3)	52411-2	TIKKANEN 36 (D,BF,F,S) (G Strawbridge) J Pease (Fr) 4-9-0	C Asmussen	[illegible]
206	(5)	23/131-3	TIME STAR 36 (D,G,S) (HRH Prince Fahd Salman) P Cole 4-9-0	T Quinn	92
207	(7)	00105-1	ONLY ROYALE 36 (D,F,G,S) (F Stronach) L Cumani 6-8-11	L Dettori	96

BETTING: 9-4 Only Royale, 5-2 Carnegie, 11-4 Tikkanen, 7-1 Sunshack, 10-1 Time Star, 16-1 Environment Friend, 20-1 Ionio.

1994: APPLE TREE 5-9-0 T Jarnet (12-1) A Fabre (Fr) 11 ran

FORM FOCUS

CARNEGIE beat Hernando short-neck in 20-runner *group I Prix de l'Arc de Triomphe at Longchamp* (1m 4f, good to soft) with ONLY ROYALE (4lb better off) 1¾l 7th. ENVIRONMENT FRIEND 1l 3rd *of 7 to Prince Di Andros in group II Tattersalls Gold* Cup at the Curragh (1m 2f, good to firm). IONIO 2l 2nd of 4 to Baron Ferdinand in listed race at Goodwood (1m 2f, firm). SUNSHACK beat Sand *Reef* ¾l *in 8-runner group II Prix de Chaudenay at* Saint-Cloud (1m 4f, good). ONLY ROYALE beat TIKKANEN neck in 7-runner group II Madagans *Jockey Club Stakes at Newmarket (1m 4f, good)* with TIME STAR 2½l 3rd
Selection: ONLY ROYALE

3.05 VODAC RATED HANDICAP

C4

(£21,201: 1m 2f 18yd) (10 runners)

301	(2)	112-250	*COTTER CHIEF 24 (F,G,S) (J Neville) M Pipe 4-9-0*	Pat Eddery	95
302	(9)	4-20540	CEDEZ LE PASSAGE 20 (BF,G) (A Richards) C Brittain 4-8-10	T Jarnet	85
303	(8)	0412-61	SHERMAN 23 (B,D,F,G) (B Wyatt, The Daily Mail) H Thomson Jones 4-8-6	R Hills	[illegible]
304	(4)	03164-0	*ALJAZZAF 18 (D,F) (Y Y Partnership) R Akehurst 5-8-5*	T Quinn	90
305	(10)	1142-13	BUROOJ 12 (D,F,G,S) (H Al Maktoum) D Morley 5-8-5	W Carson	95
306	(7)	00136-4	SAIBOT 5 (D,G,S) (M Smurfit) D Weld (Ire) 6-8-4	M J Kinane	93
307	(3)	32210-6	GREEN CRUSADER 20 (V,D,S) (Cheveley Park Stud) M Stoute 4-8-2	K Darley	91
308	(6)	300-053	EMBANKMENT 20 (F,S) (Lady Tennant) R Hannon 5-8-0	M Roberts	88
309	(11)	011403-	MYSTIC HILL 318 (D,F,S) (Sir P Oppenheimer) R Charlton 4-8-0	S Sanders (3)	80
310	(5)	02000-0	ZERMATT 54 (S) (Clarlex Gwent) M Usher 5-8-0	R Price	71

Long handicap: Embankment 7-10, Mystic Hill 7-9, Zermatt 6-4.

BETTING: 3-1 Sherman, 7-2 Burooj, 4-1 Aljazzaf, 9-2 Saibot, 8-1 Cotter Chief, Green Crusader, 12-1 Embankment, Mystic Hill, 25-1 Cedez Le Passage, 150-1 Zermatt.

1994: DARREBY 4-9-1 M J Kinane (7-1) M Stoute 12 ran

FORM FOCUS

COTTER CHIEF 6l 8th to Strategic Choice in group III race at Newbury (1m 4f, good). SHERMAN beat Marsoom neck in handicap at York (1m 2f 110yd, good). BUROOJ 1¾l 3rd to Penny A Day in handicap at Redcar (1m 2f, good to firm). Previously beat Taufan's Melody neck in handicap at Newmarket (1m 2f, good to firm) with EMBANKMENT 3¾l 5th and SHERMAN 2l 6th. SAIBOT 4l 4th to Al Mohaajir in listed race at Leopardstown (1m 1f, good). MYSTIC HILL 6l 3rd to Midnight Legend in handicap at Goodwood (1m 4f, firm).
Selection: SAIBOT

3.50 VODAFONE DERBY STAKES

C4

(Group I: 3-Y-O colts and fillies: £504,500: 1m 4f 10yd) (15 runners)

RUNNERS AND RIDERS — SEE PAGE 42

4.30 PAKNET TOTE DIRECT APPRENTICES HANDICAP (£10,748: 1m 4f 10yd) (14 runners)

C4

501	(9)	440-540	CHARITY CRUSADER 24 (G) (GMC Racing) P Chapple-Hyam 4-9-13	R Havlin (3)	98
502	(2)	10-0045	*ENDLESS LIGHT 17 (D,F,G) (F Salman) P Cole 4-9-11*	David O'Neill (7)	96
503	(12)	013082	BENFLEET 14 (D,G,S) (C Dorman) R Armstrong 4-9-9	S Lanigan	93
504	(11)	22-2620	ARTIC COURIER 22 (Britam Promotions Ltd) D Cosgrove 4-9-7	D Gibbs	92
505	(8)	06-0006	*FLIGHT LIEUTENANT 17 (F,G,S) (P & S Lever) R Hannon 6-9-5*	Dane O'Neill (3)	97
506	(7)	325-614	TONY'S FEN 10 (D,F,G,S) (The Executive) D Elsworth 6-9-5	A Procter (3)	96
507	(5)	1460-21	BALL GOWN 12 (D,F,G,S) (C Lines) D Thom 5-9-4	D R McCabe	94
508	(10)	*82-6404*	*TONDRES 12 (G) (Lawrence Plc) R Ingram 4-9-2*	S Drowne	86
509	(6)	300212	DANCING SENSATION 10 (CD,F) (Chelgate PR) R Akehurst 8-8-10	S Sanders (3)	92
510	(14)	346650	GLOBAL DANCER 45 (G) (Cornish Arms Investments) S Dow 4-8-8	A Daly (3)	90
511	(13)	*6000-51*	*BAJAN 28 (F,S) (T Sinclair) Lady Herries 4-8-7*	J O'Dwyer (3)	[illegible]
512	(4)	330500-	SHERIFF 190J (F) (C Brown) J Hills 4-8-7	M Henry (3)	96
513	(1)	0-42400	SURPRISE GUEST 26 (D,F,G,S) (Li and Hon Pinns) A James 4-8-3	C Teague	98
514	(3)	*0040-06*	*LUNAR RISK 14 (D,F,G) Miss B Sanders 5-7-7*	Caroline Hovington (4)	83

Long handicap: Lunar Risk 6-12.

BETTING: 5-1 Dancing Sensation, 6-1 Benfleet, Ball Gown, 7-1 Charity Crusader, 8-1 Tondres, Bajan, 10-1 others.

1994: DANCING SENSATION 7-8-1 S Sanders (6-1) R Akehurst 9 ran

5.00 VODACOM CONDITIONS STAKES (3-Y-O: £12,752: 7f) (5 runners)

601	(5)	21122-0	GREEN PERFUME 35 (F,G) (Lord Sondes) P Cole 9-5	T Quinn	[illegible]
602	(3)	3610-01	SMART GUEST 22 (G,S) (P Murphy) J A Harris 9-5	M Fenton	80
603	(1)	450-005	SILCA BLANKA 22 (C,G,S) (P Savill) M Channon 9-1	K Darley	89
604	(4)	6654-64	GREAT BEAR 11 (B,G) (Lady Rothschild) R Johnson Houghton 8-12	J Reid	88
605	(2)	100-095	SIGNS 18 (G) (Fieldvale Ltd) R Hannon 8-9	M Roberts	95

BETTING: 4-6 Green Perfume, 7-2 Silca Blanka, 6-1 Great Bear, 10-1 Smart Guest, Signs.

1994: NO CORRESPONDING RACE

5.30 VODAPAGE HANDICAP (£17,669: 6f) (15 runners)

1	(10)	0100-02	NO EXTRAS 17 (D,F,G,S) (K Higson) G L Moore 5-9-12	B Rouse	93
2	(8)	*05300-0*	*ROCK SYMPHONY 14 (D,G) (Mrs C Feather) W Haggas 5-9-12*	*J Reid*	95
3	(9)	000-215	DOMULLA 34 (CD,BF,G,S) (A Boon) R Akehurst 5-9-11	T Quinn	94
4	(4)	41010-1	JOIN THE CLAN 12 (D,F,G) (J Redden) Mrs N Macauley 6-9-10	M Roberts	[illegible]
5	(7)	*00-1054*	*SHIKARI'S SON 16 (CD,F,G) (A Spargo) J White 8-9-8*	*M Fenton*	96
6	(13)	01-0303	MISTER JOLSON 14 (D,F,G,S) (J Mursell) R Hodges 6-9-7	S Drowne (5)	97
7	(11)	066-004	MY BEST VALENTINE 17 (B,C,F,G) (The Valentines) J White 5-9-6	F Norton	93
8	(6)	0-12802	SADDLEHOME 24 (D,F,G,S) (K Shaw) T Barron 6-8-12	K Darley	98
9	(15)	200-554	COFFEE 'N CREAM 46 (F) (A Reeves) R Hannon 3-8-11	M J Kinane	95
10	(3)	000-131	THATCHERELLA 12 (D,F,G,S) (J Widdows) D Chappell 4-8-10	B Thomson	93
11	(1)	60-0312	COLWAY RAKE 21 (B,D,G,S) (R Coleman) J Watts 4-8-6	W Carson	96
12	(12)	01000-0	GREEN GOLIGHTLY 10 (D,F,S) (T Bilsy-Smith) D Wilson 4-8-5	N Gwilliams	95
13	(2)	000-100	GONE SAVAGE 10 (D,F,G,S) (On The Floor Pinns) W Musson 7-7-12	A McGlone	97
14	(14)	42-0300	CRAIGIE BOY 5 (B,D,G,S) (B Rayner) N Bycroft 5-7-10	A Mackay	94
15	(5)	00-0000	SOLO PRIZE 3 (B,S) (C Wright) P Howling 3-7-7	S Lanigan (7)	86

Long handicap: Solo Prize 7-6.

BETTING: 5-1 Domulla, 11-2 Saddlehome, 7-1 Thatcherella, 8-1 Join The Clan, No Extras, 10-1 others.

1994: MARGARET'S GIFT 4-9-4 L Dalton (7-1) J Berry 12 ran

GUIDE TO OUR RACECARD

103 (12) 0-0432 GOOD TIMES 74 (CO,BF,F,G,S) (Mrs D Robinson) B Hall 9-10-0 ... B West (4) 88

Racecard number. Draw in brackets. Six-figure form (F — fell. P — pulled up. U — unseated rider. B — brought down. S — slipped up. R — refused. D — disqualified). Horse's name. Days since last outing; J if jumps, F if flat. (B — blinkers. V — visor. H — hood. E — Eyeshield. C — course winner. D — distance winner. CD — course and distance winner. BF — beaten favourite in latest race). Going on which horse has won (F — firm, good to firm, hard. G — good. S — soft, good to soft, heavy). Owner in brackets. Trainer. Age and weight. Rider plus any allowance. The Times Private Handicapper's rating.

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VODAFONE DERBY
1½ miles, Epsom 3.50pm. Live on CH4 TV.

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3/1	Spectrum	33/1	Salmon Ladder
9/1	Tamure	50/1	Court of Honour
12/1	Munwar	66/1	Fahal
12/1	Presenting	200/1	Korambi
16/1	Humbel	200/1	Maralinga
16/1	Lammtarra	1000/1	Daffaq
20/1	Vettori		

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Ela-Aristokrati has the class to see off rivals

EPSOM
CHANNEL 4

3.10: **Ela-Aristokrati** is a cracking bet. Third on his seasonal debut at Sandown behind the well handicapped Holtye and Ihtiram (both won since), Michael Stoute's colt stayed on well below the distance and ran as though today's extra quarter mile would suit admirably. Dahik, winner of a York handicap last time, looks the main danger.

3.40: The speedy Allthruthenight loves this track and won here last year but is difficult to fancy from his poor draw. A high draw is advantageous and although **Brave Edge** has never raced on a track as sharp as this, Richard Hannon's in-form sprinter much be the choice. He quickened in fine style to win at Sandown before following up in a better race at York. Jayannpee could be a big danger.

4.10: Up In Flames showed improved form when winning by four lengths at Haydock last time and, with the runner-up going close at Chester on Thursday, should go close provided he can overcome a high draw. Robsera is well handicapped on the best of last year's form but has shown little this term. In a wide open heat, **Pride Of Pendle** gets the vote now that she returns to her best trip.

4.40: Axeman caught the eye when handled tenderly at Lingfield last time and looks sure to win handicaps. Neverending and Quintus Decimus were separated by less than a length at York last month and will be thereabouts but preference is for **Midwich Cuckoo**. He ran creditably on his reappearance and looked as though a return to this trip would suit.

CHANTILLY
BBC2

3.50: Lord Carnarvon supplemented Caramba for this race after an excellent second to Pure Grain in the Musidora Stakes. Carling could not match Matiara's turn of foot in the Poule d'Essai des Pouliches but looks sure to be favoured by today's trip. However, André Fabre's unbeaten filly, **Muncie**, was a late foal who is progressing really well and can add to his trainer's outstanding record.

RICHARD EVANS

RICHARD EVANS

Nap: ELA-ARISTOKRATI
(3.10 Epsom)
Next best: Credit Squeeze
(2.35 Epsom)

TELEVISED RACES TOMORROW

CHANTILLY TOMORROW

GOING: GOOD DRAW: NO ADVANTAGE BBC2

3.50 PRIX DE DIANE HERMES
Group I: 3-Y-O fillies: £167,665: 1m 2f 110yd) (12 runners)

(1) 21 BALANKA (H H Aga Khan) A de Royer Dupre 9-2 G Mosse
(4) 2134-22 LORETTA GIANNI (Allas) D Smaga 9-2 G Guignard
(11) 3-2 CARAMBA (Lord Carnarvon) R Hannon (GB) 9-2 Pat Eddery
(7) 12-11 MATIARA (Ecurie Aland) Mme C Head 9-2 F Head
(3) 3111-32 CARLING (Ecurie Delbart) P Barbe 9-2 T Thulliez
(8) 03 TIBERSEN (Ecurie Namour) R Caget 9-2 O Peslier
(12) 2113-21 TRYPHOSA (Gestut Burg-Eberstein) A Wohler (Ger) 9-2 A Boschert
(5) 3321-00 VADLAMIXA (J-L Lagardere) A Fabre 9-2 T Jarnet
(10) 3146-1 GARDEN ROSE (Mme A O'Reilly) P Bary 9-2 D Boeuf
(2) 111 MUNCIE (D Wildenstein) A Fabre 9-2 O Peslier
(9) 121 TAMISE (D Wildenstein) A Fabre 9-2 S Guillot
(6) 11-123 SHAAMIT (T Yoshida) E Lellouche 9-2 L Dettori

BETTING: 9-4 Muncie, Tamise (coupled), 3-1 Matiara, 7-2 Carling, 7-1 Shaamit, 10-1 Caramba, Vadlamixa, 12-1 Tryphosa, 14-1 Loretta Gianni, 20-1 Garden Rose, 25-1 Balanka, 50-4 Tibersen.

1994: EAST OF THE MOON 9-2 C Asmussen (4-5 fav) F Boutin 9 ran

YESTERDAY'S RESULTS

Epsom
Going: good to firm
2.10 (5f) 1, Prince Aslia (D Holland, 100-30); 2, Tadeo (8-1); 3, Cayman Kai (5-4 fav). 5 ran. 1¾l, 2½l. M Johnston. Tote: £4.30; £1.80, £2.70. DF: £18.00. CSF: £21.90.
2.45 (1m 4f 10yd) 1, Beauchamp Hero (J Reid, 7-2); 2, Wading (7-1); 3, Saxon Maid (13-2). Penny A Day 5-2 fav. 8 ran. 2l, nk. J Dunlop. Tote: £4.30; £1.60, £1.90, £1.80. DF: £11.40. CSF: £24.55. Tricast: £130.97.
3.15 (1m 114yd) 1, Mr Martini (M Roberts, 5-1); 2, Be Mindful (16-1); 3, Chato (25-1). Tonic Boy 11-8 fav. 7 ran. 1¾l, dd-ht. C Brittain. Tote: £19.70; £3.50, £5.70. DF: £18.60. CSF: £258.99. After a stewards' inquiry, Chato, who dead-heated for second, was disqualified and been placed third
4.00 (1m 4f 10yd) See facing page
4.35 (1m 114yd) 1, Neither Nor (G Carter, 10-1); 2, Brave Revival (9-2 jt-fav); 3, Brief Glimpse (9-2 jt-fav). 9 ran. 1l, ¾l. D Wilson. Tote: £14.60; £2.70, £1.90, £1.80. DF: £53.50. Trio: £163.40. CSF: £99.28.
5.10 (1m 2f 18yd) 1, Yoush (T Jarnet, 8-1; Richard Evans's nap); 2, Grand Selection (3-1); 3, Hardy Dancer (14-1). Bob's Ploy 2-1 fav. 11 ran. ¾l, ½l. M Jarvis. Tote: £11.10; £2.80, £2.70, £3.20. DF: £48.40. Trio: £216.80. CSF: £67.90. Tricast: £817.29.
Jackpot: not won (pool of £72,114.57 carried forward to Epsom today).
Placepot: £1,881.80. Quadpot: £207.00.

Catterick Bridge
Going: good, good to firm in places
2.20 (1m 3f 214yd) 1, Admirals Secret (L Newton, 5-2); 2, Anaalee (9-2); 3, New Inn (9-4 fav). 9 ran. NR: Prime Property. 2l, nk. C Wall. Tote: £2.70; £1.10, £1.30, £1.70. DF: £5.70. Trio: £7.00. CSF: £15.58. Tricast: £28.42.
2.50 (5f) 1, Limerick Princess (J Carroll, 9-1); 2, Diminuet (20-1); 3, Ellin Queen (11-2). Stop Play 4-6 fav. 9 ran. Sh hd, 1l. J Berry. Tote: £4.60; £1.10, £8.80, £2.30. DF: £125.40. Trio: £55.10. CSF: £58.59.
3.20 (5f) 1, Lugana Vision (D R McCabe, 4-1); 2, Stuffed (9-4); 3, Daily Starshine (9-1). Bollin Harry 7-4 fav. 10 ran. Hd, 1½l. G Fierro. Tote: £10.50; £3.00, £1.80, £2.10. DF: £30.60. Trio: £23.30. CSF: £28.15. Tricast: £162.22.
3.55 (1m 5f 175yd) 1, Risky Rose (A Garth, 7-1); 2, Recovery Lad (6-1); 3, Durgams First (9-2). Gentle Irony 6-4 fav. 9 ran. ¾l, 1¾l. R Hollinshead. Tote: £9.60; £2.10, £2.10, £1.90. DF: £36.60. Trio: £86.00. CSF: £51.19. After a stewards' inquiry, result stood
4.30 (5f 212yd) 1, Heart Broken (J Weaver, 11-2); 2, Hello Hobson's (33-1); 3, Pine Ridge Lad (8-1). Blue Grit 2-1 fav. 10 ran. Sh hd, 1¾l. J Fitzgerald. Tote: £4.80; £1.50, £5.60, £2.50. DF: £61.40. Trio: £252.50. CSF: £128.59. Tricast: £1,315.04.
5.00 (7f) 1, It's Academic (S Buckley, 2-1 fav); 2, Ganador (11-2); 3, Prim Lass (12-1). 9 ran. 3l, 1½l. Mrs J Ramsden. Tote: £3.70; £1.30, £1.80, £2.80. DF: £10.20. Trio: £70.50. CSF: £14.75.
Placepot: £122.40. Quadpot: £39.60 (part won; pool of £25.80 carried forward to Epsom today).

Perth
Going: good, good to soft in places
2.00 (2m 110yd hdle) 1, Bone Setter (Chris Webb, 6-4 fav); 2, Rachael's Owen (11-2); 3, Bagots Park (50-1). 7 ran. 11l, 14l. S Mellor. Tote: £2.30; £1.60, £2.10. DF: £9.20. CSF: £9.08.
2.30 (2m ch) 1, Storm Falcon (Chris Webb, 4-5 fav); 2, Linden's Lotto (13-8); 3, Willie Sparkle (12-1). 7 ran. 15l, 30l. S Mellor. Tote: £1.80; £1.50, £1.60. DF: £1.60. CSF: £2.34.
3.00 (3m 110yd hdle) 1, Johns The Boy (J Supple, 9-2); 2, Karen's Lady Luck (14-1); 3, German Legend (12-1). Glendalane Lady 9-4 fav. 7 ran. NR: Rusino. Nk, 8l. N Mason. Tote: £4.40; £1.30, £4.50. DF: £26.30. CSF: £48.46. Tricast: £555.72.
3.30 (3m ch) 1, Uron V (P Niven, 10-11 fav); 2, Crogeen Lass (8-1); 3, Choice Challenge (11-2). 5 ran. NR: Witchris. ¾l, 10l. Mrs M Reveley. Tote: £1.40; £1.30, £2.10. DF: £9.40. CSF: £7.30.
4.05 (2m 4f 110yd hdle) 1, Tabu Lady (A P McCoy, 9-4 fav); 2, Couchant (5-1); 3, Malachite Green (7-2). 10 ran. 5l, 5l. W Rock. Tote: £3.60; £1.30, £1.70, £1.40. DF: £8.90. Trio: £12.80. CSF: £12.29.
4.40 (2m 110yd hdle) 1, Daphnis (B Storey, 11-2); 2, Petal's Jarred (14-1); 3, Without A Flag (11-8 fav). 5 ran. 13l, 8l. W Kemp. Tote: £12.30; £1.60, £4.60. DF: £128.50. CSF: £47.53.
Placepot: £755.00. Quadpot: not won (pool of £43.60 carried forward to Epsom today).

Thursday's late results

Chester
Going: good
6.45 (7f 2yd) 1, Champagne Grandy (R Hughes, 10-1); 2, Dawalib (7-2 fav); 3, Shepherd Market (5-1). 8 ran. ¾l, 1l. M Channon. CSF: £42.52. Tricast: £180.34.
7.15 (1m 2f 75yd) 1, Indian Jockey (M Roberts, 5-6 fav; Private Handicapper's top rating); 2, Unprejudice (9-1); 3, Veloce (15-2). 6 ran. 3½l, 8l. M Pipe. Tote: £1.90; £1.60, £3.40. DF: £10.80. CSF: £8.51.
7.45 (5f 16yd) 1, Whittle Rock (K Fallon, 4-1); 2, Stealth Attack (8-1); 3, Anjaan (2-5 fav). 5 ran. 5l, 1l. E Alston. Tote: £4.10; £1.80, £2.10. DF: £10.80. CSF: £27.35.
8.15 (1m 4f 66yd) 1, Marsoom (M Rimmer, 5-4 fav; Newmarket Correspondent's nap); 2, Double Dagger (3-1); 3, Mabellef (13-8). 3 ran. 1½l, dist. B Hanbury. Tote: £2.40. DF: £2.90. CSF: £4.30.
8.45 (6f 18yd) 1, Fantasy Racing (R Hughes, 7-4 fav); 2, One For Jeannie (2-1); 3, Ultra Beet (11-2). 8 ran. 1l, nk. M Channon. Tote: £2.90; £1.40, £1.40, £1.70. DF: £3.20. CSF: £6.05.
9.15 (5f 16yd) 1, Elle Shaped (Alex Greaves, 4-1 fav); 2, White Sorrel (8-1); 3, Macfarlane (13-2). 13 ran. 3l, 1l. D Nicholls. Tote: £4.00; £2.00, £3.10, £2.70. DF: £21.00. Trio: £50.20. CSF: £34.48. Tricast: £188.13.
Placepot: £98.40. Quadpot: £19.40.

Perth
Going: good to soft
7.00 (2m 110yd hdle) 1, Erinny (R Marley, 7-2); 2, Sharp N' Smooth (7-1); 3, Cadeaux Premiere (4-1). Doubling Dice 10-3 fav. 9 ran. Hd, 5l. J Quinn. Tote: £5.60; £1.90, £1.70, £1.50. DF: £12.10. Trio: £13.90. CSF: £23.59.
7.30 (2m 4f 110yd ch) 1, Witchris (T P Rudd, 5-2 fav); 2, Auvillar (6-1); 3, Charming Gale (6-1). 7 ran. 11l, 3l. David McBratney (Ire). Tote: £3.20; £1.70, £3.20. DF: £9.20. CSF: £14.71.
8.00 (3m 110yd hdle) 1, Applauder (R Supple, 20-1); 2, Old Habits (2-5 fav); 3, Over The Maine (3-1). 6 ran. 3½l, 20l. P Beaumont. Tote: £21.30; £4.40, £1.30. DF: £10.40. CSF: £28.61.
8.30 (3m ch) 1, Googly (A P McCoy, 6-4 fav); 2, Rusino (14-1); 3, Crogeen Lass (10-1). 13 ran. NR: Monaughty Man. 7l, 2½l. J White. Tote: £2.20; £1.50, £3.40, £2.50. DF: £10.70. Trio: £82.00. CSF: £21.76.
9.00 (2m ch) 1, Golden Isle (K Johnson, 5-4 fav); 2, Willie Sparkle (11-2); 3, Precipice Run (11-8). 4 ran. 8l, 11l. J Charlton. Tote: £2.40. DF: £4.70. CSF: £6.66.
9.30 (2m 110yd hdle) 1, Frankus (Chris Webb, 2-1 fav); 2, East Houston (12-1); 3, Weaver George (6-2). 5 ran. NR: Cheapquod, Tashreef. 13l, 5l. S Mellor. Tote: £3.00; £1.50, £2.20. DF: £16.90. CSF: £18.26.
Placepot: £18.30. Quadpot: £4.30.

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THUNDERER
2.00 Cabcharge Striker. 2.35 Credit Squeeze. 3.10 Ela-Aristokrati. 3.40 Jayannpee. 4.10 **COMANCHE COMPANION (nap).** 4.40 Quintus Decimus.

The Times Private Handicapper's top rating: 3.40 **BRAVE EDGE.**

Our Newmarket Correspondent: 2.35 Lombardic. 3.10 **ELA-ARISTOKRATI (nap).** 4.10 Kingchip Boy.

GOING: GOOD TO FIRM (GOOD IN STRAIGHT) SIS
DRAW: 5F, HIGH BEST, 7F-1M, LOW BEST

2.00 ASTEC MEDIAN AUCTION CONDITIONS STAKES (2-Y-O: £6,272: 6f) (7 runners)

101 (7) 001- ARCTIC ROMANCER 15 (G) G Lewis 8-11 Paul Eddery 95
102 (5) 1335 CABCHARGE STRIKER 17 (S) M Channon 8-11 R Hughes 99
103 (4) 15 GENERAL ROSE 38 (S) R Hannon 8-11 J Reid 87
104 (6) 413 TO THE WHIRE 17 (F) G L Moore 8-10 B Rouse 93
105 (1) 1 BORN A LADY 31 (S) N Littmoden 8-6 T G McLaughlin 90
106 (2) 201 CYRILLIC 10 (D,F) P Kelleway 8-6 M Wigham 83
107 (3) 664 MYSTERY MATTHIAS 22 Miss B Sanders 8-6 M Roberts 83
7-4 Cabcharge Striker, 3-1 Arctic Romancer, 4-1 To The Whire, 5-1 General Rose, Cyrillic, 16-1 Born A Lady, 14-1 Mystery Matthias.

2.35 TALKLAND LADY RIDERS CONDITIONS STAKES (£6,743: 1m 4f 10yd) (7)

201 (7) 1213 MR BEAN 15 (D,G) K Burke 5-11-2 Miss E Burke (5) 89
202 (4) 028- LOMBARDIC 191J (F) Mrs J Cecil 4-11-1 Mrs J Crossley 99
203 (1) 1315 CREDIT SQUEEZE 26 (D,BF,F,G) R Johnson Houghton 5-10-13 Miss E Johnson Houghton 95
204 (2) 104- AMANCIO 97J (D,G) G Harwood 4-10-12 Miss A Harwood 94
205 (6) 1200 CHILDREN'S CHOICE 32 (BF,F,S) P McBride 4-10-12 Miss D Kettlewell 85
206 (5) 1523 DON'T DROP BOMBS 87 (V,D,G) D Thom 5-10-9 Miss J Feilden 61
207 (3) 0442 WILD STRAWBERRY 26 (BF,F,G) Miss B Sanders 5-10-6 Miss Diana Jones 93
9-4 Amancio, 3-1 Lombardic, 4-1 Credit Squeeze, 5-1 Wild Strawberry, 6-1 Children's Choice, 12-1 Mr Bean, 20-1 Don't Drop Bombs.

3.10 MARTIN DAWES CONDITIONS STAKES (£12,217: 1m 2f 18yd) (5) C4

301 (2) -421 DAHIK 26 (D,F) W Hern 3-8-12 W Carson 93
302 (3) 4-35 SPOT PRIZE 11 (G) I Balding 4-8-10 W Ryan 99
303 (4) 1-65 STIFFELIO 33 (D,G) R Hannon 3-8-6 J Reid 89
304 (5) 53-1 DIAGHILEF 34 (D,S) M Johnston 3-8-4 D Holland 86
305 (1) 60-3 ELA-ARISTOKRATI 43 (G) M Stoute 3-8-4 M Hills 96
2-1 Ela-Aristokrati, 3-1 Dahik, 7-2 Spot Prize, Stiffelio, 5-1 Diaghilef.

FORM FOCUS: DAHIK beat Maralinga short-head in 7-runner handicap at York (1m 2f 85yd, good to firm). SPOT PRIZE 7l 3rd of 4 to Alriffa in conditions race at Bath (1m 3f 144yd, firm) on penultimate start. STIFFELIO about 5¾l 5th of 7 to Luso in group III Dalham Chester Vase at Chester (1m 4f 66yd, good to firm). DIAGHILEF beat Munaadee 4l in 10-runner maiden at Newcastle (1m 2f, good to soft). ELA-ARISTOKRATI short-head and 2l 3rd of 13 to Holtye in handicap at Sandown (1m, good).
Selection: DAHIK

3.40 VODAFONE DASH RATED HANDICAP (Listed race: £24,322: 5f) (10) C4

401 (10) -000 WINDMACHINE 8 (B,D,G,S) R Harris 4-9-0 T Quinn 96
402 (8) -211 BRAVE EDGE 25 (D,F,S) R Hannon 4-8-13 R Hughes 99
403 (5) 0-32 JAYANNPEE 31 (D,F,G) I Balding 4-8-12 W Ryan 95
404 (6) 4-01 ASHTINA 31 (CD,F,G,S) R Hodges 10-8-7 J Quinn 93
405 (7) -335 DON'T WORRY ME 19 (D,F) F Lee 3-8-4 Paul Eddery 88
406 (3) 2011 DOUBLE QUICK 22 (D,F,G,S) M Johnston 3-8-2 J Weaver 86
407 (1) 0-50 TUSCAN DAWN 25 (D,G,S) J Berry 5-8-0 G Hind 91
408 (2) 0-20 ALLTHRUTHENIGHT 51 (CD,F,G) L Holt 6-8-0 W Carson 89
409 (6) -000 INSIDER TRADER 8 (B,D,F,S) R Williams 4-8-0 D Biggs 89
410 (4) 6501 MUSICA 16 (V,D,F,G) M Channon 3-7-7 G Bardwell 89
11-4 Brave Edge, 3-1 Jayannpee, 4-1 Ashtina, 6-1 Double Quick, 7-1 Allthruthenight, 14-1 Insider Trader, Don't Worry Me, 16-1 others.

FORM FOCUS: WINDMACHINE 23l last of 10 to Ya Malak in listed race at Kempton (5f, good). BRAVE EDGE beat Saddlehome 1½l in 16-runner handicap at York (5f, good) with TUSCAN DAWN (11lb better off) 9½l 10th and INSIDER TRADER (6lb better off) 5l 14th. JAYANNPEE 1¾l 3rd of 5 to Lucky Parkes in conditions race at Bath (5f, good) on penultimate start. ASHTINA beat JAYANNPEE (3lb better off) 1l in 9-runner handicap at Chester (5f, good to firm) with TUSCAN DAWN (7lb better off) 3¾l 5th and INSIDER TRADER (2lb better off) ¾l 7th. DON'T WORRY ME best effort this term 3¾l 3rd of 7 to Venture Capitalist in conditions race at Thirsk (6f, good). DOUBLE QUICK beat Shashi 1¾l in handicap at Thirsk (5f, firm) with MUSICA (3lb worse off) 13¾l 7th. MUSICA beat Shashi head in handicap at Brighton (5f 213yd, firm).
Selection: BRAVE EDGE

4.10 MAIL ON SUNDAY MILE HANDICAP (Qualifier: £14,265: 1m 114yd) (14) C4

501 (14) -001 PAY HOMAGE 19 (D,F,G) I Balding 7-9-10 M Hills 95
502 (9) 6206 SECOND CHANCE 29 (D,F,G,S) P Mitchell 5-9-6 S Sanders (3) 94
503 (13) -000 ROBSERA 36 (CD,F) G Lewis 4-9-3 Paul Eddery 92
504 (11) 0200 QUEENS CONSUL 13 (D,F,G) B Rothwell 5-9-2 J Stack (5) 98
505 (4) 0001 KINGCHIP BOY 19 (V,C,D,F,G) M Ryan 6-9-1 A Clark 94
506 (1) 4-05 TE AMO 19 (G) R Akehurst 3-8-12 T Quinn 90
507 (12) -051 UP IN FLAMES 16 (D,G) M Hammond 4-8-10 W Carson 96
508 (16) -002 COMANCHE COMPANION 13 (D,F,G,S) T Naughton 5-8-9 J Weaver 90
509 (5) 1056 PRIDE OF PENDLE 13 (D,F,G,S) D Nicholls 6-8-9 Alex Greaves 96
510 (8) 4530 LEGAL FICTION 95 (D,G) M Johnston 4-8-7 D Holland 99
511 (2) 0213 SHEPHERD MARKET 3 (F,G) D Wilson 4-8-5 G Carter 95
512 (3) 540- STATELY HOME 291 B Millman 4-8-5 G Bardwell —
513 (7) 0221 DANEGOLD 9 (V,D,F,G) M Channon 3-8-1 C Rutter 96
514 (6) 0030 PAB'S CHOICE 17 (G,S) M McCormack 4-7-12 M Henry (7) 94
5-1 Pay Homage, 6-1 Te Amo, 7-1 Up In Flames, Kingchip Boy, 8-1 Robsera, Comanche Companion, 10-1 others.

FORM FOCUS: PAY HOMAGE beat Ham N'Eggs a head in 11-runner handicap at Goodwood (1m 1f, good to firm). KINGCHIP BOY beat Captain's Day a length in 14-runner handicap at Goodwood (1m, firm). UP IN FLAMES beat Dawalib 4l in 11-runner handicap at Haydock (1m, good). COMANCHE COMPANION neck 2nd of 9 to Forest Cat in handicap at Sandown (7f, good). SHEPHERD MARKET 1¾l 3rd of 8 to Champagne Grandy in handicap at Chester (7f, good). DANEGOLD beat Master Millfield 3l in 12-runner handicap at Bath (1m, good).
Selection: DANEGOLD

4.40 VODACALL TOKYO TROPHY HANDICAP (3-Y-O: £17,831: 7f) (14) C4

601 (1) 0-44 LOVEYOUMILLIONS 15 (D,BF,F,S) M Johnston 9-7 J Weaver 96
602 (4) 1-55 CRYSTAL CAVERN 22 (D,G) R Charlton 9-5 T Quinn 86
603 (3) -504 AXEMAN 29 (F) R Hannon 9-1 R Hughes 96
604 (2) -050 NAGNAGNAG 23 (C,G,S) S Dow 9-0 M Roberts 92
605 (13) 2-65 NEVERENDING 24 (D,F) H Cecil 8-12 W Ryan 99
606 (14) -032 EMIRATES EXPRESS 19 (D,G) J Hills 8-10 M Henry (7) 93
607 (6) -201 SHEN YANG 11 (D,F) G L Moore 8-9 B Rouse 98
608 (8) 03-0 MIDWICH CUCKOO 51 (F) P Walwyn 8-9 M Hills 90
609 (5) -043 QUINTUS DECIMUS 24 (D,S) Lord Huntingdon 8-6 J Reid 96
610 (9) 0121 FANTASY RACING 3 (BF,F,G,S) M Channon 8-6 (4ex) P P Murphy (5) 91
611 (11) 2-32 HAWA AL NASAMAAT 13 E Dunlop 8-4 Paul Eddery 96
612 (7) 40-4 BALANCE OF POWER 22 (F) R Akehurst 8-3 S Sanders (3) 89
613 (12) -000 CABCHARGE BLUE 37 (F,S) T Naughton 7-13 A McGlone 87
614 (10) 4042 MASTER MILLFIELD 8 (D,BF,G) C Hill 7-7 J Quinn 96
4-1 Emirates Express, 9-2 Axeman, 8-1 Loveyoumillions, Balance Of Power, Neverending, Quintus Decimus, 10-1 others.

FORM FOCUS: LOVEYOUMILLIONS 4½l 4th of 9 to Star Tulip in listed handicap at Haydock (6f, good to soft). EMIRATES EXPRESS 1¾l 2nd of 11 to Shahid in handicap at Goodwood (7f, good to firm). SHEN YANG beat Mo's Star 8l in maiden auction at Folkestone (7f, firm). QUINTUS DECIMUS 1¾l 3rd of 13 to Classicy in handicap at York (1m, good) with NEVERENDING (2lb better off) ¾l 5th. FANTASY RACING beat One For Jeannie 1l in claimer at Chester (6f, good). HAWA AL NASAMAAT 1¼l 2nd to Schamhorst in handicap at Sandown (7f, good). MASTER MILLFIELD 3l 2nd to Danegold in handicap at Bath (1m, good).
Selection: EMIRATES EXPRESS

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS: Lord Huntingdon, 7 winners from 17 runners, 41.2%; H Cecil, 3 from 15, 20.0%; J Berry, 7 from 39, 17.9%; M Stoute, 7 from 44, 15.9%; R Akehurst, 9 from 58, 15.5%; J Hills, 4 from 26, 15.4%.
JOCKEYS: G Carter, 4 winners from 20 rides, 20.0%; J Reid, 14 from 86, 16.3%; W Carson, 10 from 65, 15.4%; M Hills, 4 from 32, 12.5%; D Holland, 4 from 35, 11.4%. Only qualifiers.

Weld aims for repeat

The Dermot Weld-trained Off'n'away attempts to complete a family double in the grade one £268,205 Belmont Stakes (1m 4f) at Belmont Park, New York, today. Mike Smith partners Off'n'away, a full brother to Go And Go who won this race for Weld in 1990. The son of Be My Guest, who finished third to Derby hopeful Maralinga in the Kentucky Derby Trial at Lingfield in April, faces 11 opponents. These include the winners of the two other legs of the American Triple Crown — Thunder Gulch and Timber Country.

DONCASTER

THUNDERER
2.20 Just Like Me. 2.50 Souperficial. 3.20 Silent Expression. 4.15 Hoh Express. 4.45 Crowned Glory. 5.20 Chief Minister.

Our Newmarket Correspondent: 2.20 JUST LIKE ME (nap). 4.15 Out On A Promise.

GOING: GOOD DRAW: 5F-7F, HIGH BEST SIS

2.20 ST JOHN AMBULANCE MAIDEN STAKES (£3,766: 5f) (10 runners)

1 0032 JUST DISSIDENT 9 R Whitaker 3-8-13 A Culhane 2
2 25-4 MR TEIGH 15 K McAuliffe 3-8-13 J Tate (3) 4
3 04- CHIEF'S LADY 326 G Fierro 3-8-8 M Wigham 10
4 00- DEBBIEDALE 330 R Boss 3-8-8 M Rimmer 5
5 4-3 JUST LIKE ME 12 R Guest 3-8-8 J Quinn 3
6 0000 LA BELLE DOMINIQUE 19 S Knight 3-8-8 W Newnes 8
7 0-62 PREMIUM GIFT 14 (BF) C Booth 3-8-8 J Fortune 6
8 8 SUPER LOOK 14 T Etherington 3-8-8 Dean McKeown 1
9 84- TOASTED 278 W Jarvis 3-8-8 T Ives 7
10 56-4 TONYS GIFT 4 R Hannon 3-8-8 R Perham 9
11-4 Just Like Me, 3-1 Mr Teigh, 7-2 Tonys Gift, 9-2 Premium Gift, 5-1 Just Dissident, 7-1 Toasted, 20-1 others.

2.50 KNOWSLEY HANDICAP (£6,368: 7f) (8)

1 00-1 GLOWING JADE 14 (CD,F,G) Miss G Kelleway 5-9-13 R Painter (5) 4
2 0-01 SOMERTON BOY 17 (D,F,G) P Calver 5-9-13 S Maloney 1
3 1550 ALLINSON'S MATE 9 (B,CD,F,G) T Barron 7-9-8 J Fortune 7
4 0020 KEMO SABO 17 (BF,S) Mrs J Ramsden 3-9-4 D Harrison 5
5 -000 YOXALL LODGE 36 (D,S) H Collingridge 5-9-0 J Quinn 8
6 3201 SOUPERFICIAL 14 (V,D,F,G) J Glover 4-8-10 T Ives 6
7 0520 DANTE'S RUBICON 7 J Bethell 4-8-2 J Tate (3) 2
8 0364 GREY AGAIN 8 (B,D,G) S Bowring 3-7-13 T Williams 3
9-4 Somerton Boy, 4-1 Souperficial, 9-2 Glowing Jade, 5-1 Allinson's Mate, 6-1 Grey Again, 8-1 Kemo Sabo, Dante's Rubicon, 50-1 Yoxall Lodge.

3.20 INOVAR FILLIES HANDICAP (£5,952: 6f) (10)

1 00/0 PETITE-D-ARGENT 14 (D,F,S) T Dyer 6-10-0 Stephen Davies 8
2 10-5 MAGIC ORB 7 (F,G,S) J L Harris 5-9-13 N Varley (5) 4
3 23-4 PALO BLANCO 11 (C,F,G) T Barron 4-9-11 J Fortune 5
4 03-3 I'M YOUR LADY 14 (D,F) B McMahon 4-9-11 Martin Dwyer (7) 6
5 -101 SILENT EXPRESSION 15 (CD,F,G) B Meehan 5-9-10 D Harrison 1
6 0585 MACS MAHARANEE 12 (CD,F,G) P Felgate 8-9-5 J Fanning 10
7 23-1 NORDAN RAIDER 145 (D,F,G,S) M Camacho 7-9-8 Dean McKeown 3
8 0356 PRIMA SILK 12 (D,F) M Ryan 4-9-6 T Ives 9
9 6-20 MISS ARAGON 9 (D,F,G) Miss L Siddall 7-8-1 N Carlisle 2
10 -006 RANKAIDADE 11 (S) D Incisa 4-7-11 Kim Tinkler 7
4-1 Silent Expression, 9-2 I'm Your Lady, 5-1 Magic Orb, Palo Blanco, 6-1 Nordan Raider, 7-1 Macs Maharanee, Rankaidade, 10-1 others.

4.15 STONES BITTER HANDICAP (3-Y-O: £7,700: 1m) (7)

1 1-44 THAT OLD FEELING 14 (D,F) R Hannon 9-7 R Perham 3
2 2-01 HOH EXPRESS 22 (D,G) I Balding 9-4 W Newnes 1
3 34-0 LAST ROUNDUP 70 (G) C Thornton 9-0 Dean McKeown 4
4 0663 OUT ON A PROMISE 12 (G) G Wragg 8-2 N Carlisle 6
5 -230 BARREL OF HOPE 21 (G) J Eyre 8-0 R Lappin 7
6 5026 FLORIDANTE 12 (BF) P Cole 7-9 J Quinn 5
7 0040 CARLITO BRIGANTE 10 Mrs J Ramsden 7-7 N Kennedy 2
6-4 Hoh Express, 11-4 Out On A Promise, 4-1 Floridante, 7-1 That Old Feeling, 12-1 Last Roundup, Carlito Brigante, 33-1 Barrel of Hope.

4.45 WHITBY CLAIMING STAKES (£3,688: 1m 4f) (4)

1 4005/ FRET 30J (S) J Wainwright 5-9-5 Dean McKeown 4
2 1-05 BALZINO 9 (F) N Tinkler 6-9-3 Kim Tinkler 1
3 -305 CROWNED GLORY 14 (BF) P Cole 3-8-5 J Fortune 2
4 -000 PEWTER LASS 26 M Blanshard 3-7-9 J Quinn 3
Evens Crowned Glory, 2-1 Balzino, 4-1 Fret, 12-1 Pewter Lass.

5.20 GREAT YORKSHIRE GOLD HANDICAP (£3,850: 2m 110yd) (11)

1 50-4 CHIEF MINISTER 22 (F,S) T Dyer 6-10-0 J Fortune 6
2 2-64 TARTHOOTH 26 (F,G) C Benstead 4-9-9 W Newnes 11
3 0334 KADIRI 14 (D,G) J Bosley 4-9-6 G Bardwell 3
4 620- YAAKUM 214J (D,F,G) S Kettlewell 6-8-12 J Tate (3) 1
5 -300 ROMALITO 14 M Blanshard 5-8-10 J Quinn 7
6 0511 SNOW DREAM 7 (D,G) M Ryan 5-8-9 M Baird (5) 4
7 0004 LORD HASTIE 14 (C,F,G,S) C Thornton 7-8-9 Dean McKeown 5
8 00-0 BLACK ICE BOY 35 R Bastiman 4-8-4 A Culhane 2
9 0-00 FRUITFUL AFFAIR 19 (F) T Thomson Jones 6-8-2 Stephen Davies 10
10 -103 FLASHMAN 26 (D,G) B Llewellyn 5-7-13 T Williams 8
11 03-3 TEOROMA 14 J Scargill 5-7-7 N Kennedy 9
3-1 Snow Dream, 4-1 Chief Minister, 9-2 Kadiri, 5-1 Lord Hastie, 6-1 Flashman, 8-1 Tarthooth, 18-1 others.

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS: G Wragg, 11 winners from 49 runners, 22.4%; I Balding, 11 from 67, 16.4%; R Hannon, 26 from 238, 10.9%; Mrs J Ramsden, 18 from 180, 10.0%; R Whitaker, 5 from 48, 10.4%.
JOCKEYS: R Perham, 3 winners from 23 rides, 13.0%; N Carlisle, 8 from 71, 11.3%; Stephen Davies, 3 from 30, 10.0%. Only qualifiers.

BLINKERED FIRST TIME: Doncaster: 2.50 Allinson's Mate. Epsom: 4.30 Chanty Crusader, 5.00 Great Bear. Haydock Park: 4.10 Moccasin Run, 5.15 Larghetto. Market Rasen: 6.50 Kleineleaba, Sir Norman Holt. Newmarket: 8.40 Khayrapour. Wolverhampton: 6.00 Delgarth Lady, Rossini Blue, 8.00 Miss Offset, Chris's Governor. Worcester: 2.55 Leap Into Spring, 3.25 Chain Shot, 5.25 Furry Knowe, Pearly King.

MARKET RASEN

THUNDERER
6.20 Its Unbelievable. 6.50 Innocent George. 7.20 Pats Minstrel. 7.50 Derrymoss. 8.20 Ever Smile. 9.00 Faal Mario.

~~GOING: GOOD~~ (GOOD TO FIRM IN BACK STRAIGHT) SIS

6.20 OPEN AFTERNOON NOVICES CHASE (£3,732: 2m 4f) (10 runners)

1 312- SORTNAMONA 10 (G) J Bewley 9-11-13 B Storey
2 212- KIVETON TYCOON 15 (B,C,F,G,S) J Glover 6-11-13 A S Smith
3 334- FLOWING RIVER 24 (F,G) W Barker 9-11-6 G Harker
4 /21- ITS UNBELIEVABLE 16 (F) J White 5-11-6 M A Fitzgerald
5 0P2- KNAYTON PROSPECT 12 (F) M W Easterby 7-11-6 P Niven
6 223- MASTER'S CROWN 14 (F,G,S) M Chapman 7-11-6 W Worthington
7 024- OSGATHORPE 19 (F,G) R Tate 8-11-6 Mrs F Needham
8 0FU- SCOTCH 'N IRISH 14 Miss S Smith 6-11-6 Richard Guest
9 648- THISTLE MONARCH 145 (G,S) S Clark 10-11-6 Miss R Clark (7)
10 P42- MAGIC BLOOM 7 (F,G) J Jefferson 9-11-1 L Wyer
5-4 Kiveton Tycoon, 4-1 Its Unbelievable, 6-1 Sortnamona, 8-1 Flowing River, Knayton Prospect, 12-1 Magic Bloom, 16-1 Master's Crown, 20-1 others.

6.50 DERBY DAY SELLING HANDICAP HURDLE (£1,968: 2m 1f 110yd) (14)

1 1P2- ELECTRIC COMMITTEE 11 (S) P Monteith 5-12-0 G Cahill (7)
2 023- INNOCENT GEORGE 16 (CD,G) Miss L Siddall 6-11-5 A Thornton
3 523- MISTER BLAKE 54 I Campbell 6-10-9 D Frodsham (7)
4 00P- KLEINELEABA 77 (G) Mrs F White 6-10-7 Miss S White
5 P55- SMOOTH HOUND 9 M Pipe 4-10-4 C Maude
6 856- NIGHT BOAT 35 W Clay 4-10-3 Diane Clay
7 080- RAVE-ON-HADLEY 16 S Campion 5-10-2 P Midgley (3)
8 000- MUSICAL VENTURE 26 K Morgan 4-10-0 A S Smith
9 000- SIDE BAR 10F (B,CD,G) K Wingrove 5-10-0 J Ryan
10 450- SHUT UP 11 (D,G) Mrs E Moscrop 5-10-0 B Storey
11 06P- TALL FELLOW 36 S Clark 5-10-0 Miss R Clark (7)
12 863- BAYDU 12 D Robinson 4-10-0 M Robinson
13 055- TELMAR SYSTEMS 185 J White 6-10-0 P McLoughlin
14 /PP- PIERRE BLANCO 33 M Bradstock 6-10-0 L Wyer
9-4 Electric Committee, 7-2 Innocent George, 9-2 Smooth Hound, 8-1 Mister Blake, 14-1 Telmar Systems, Side Bar, 16-1 others.

7.20 LINCOLNSHIRE ECHO HANDICAP CHASE (£3,171: 2m 1f 110yd) (6)

1 013- PATS MINSTREL 25 (B,F,G,S) R Champion 10-12-0 M A Fitzgerald
2 133- FULL O'PRAISE 31 (F,G) P Calver 8-11-12 L Wyer
3 111- FINE HARVEST 12 (D,F) J Spearing 9-11-9 D Gallagher
4 112- SUPER TRUCKER 253 (D,F,G) D Eddy 12-10-5 J Callaghan
5 2U2- RUPPLES 10 (C,F,G) M Chapman 8-10-5 W Worthington
6 524- SECRET SUMMIT 9 (CD,F,G,S) A Forbes 9-10-3 T Eley (3)
7-4 Fine Harvest, 3-1 Full O'Praise, 7-2 Super Trucker, 4-1 Pats Minstrel, 14-1 Secret Summit, 16-1 Rupples.

7.50 ST BARNABAS HOSPICE HANDICAP CHASE (£3,764: 2m 6f 110yd) (6)

1 /40- SOME DAY SOON 65 (F) M Bradstock 10-12-0 Richard Guest
2 P35- SWORD BEACH 9 (F,G,S) Mrs M Reveley 11-11-13 P Niven
3 13P- SOHAIL 239 (F,G,S) J White 12-11-4 M A Fitzgerald
4 311- DERRYMOSS 12 (V,F,G,S) M Pipe 9-10-8 C Maude
5 U46- STEPFASTER 11 (CD,F,G) Miss L Siddall 10-10-3 A Thornton
6 030- BALLINROSTIG 11 (F,G) B Wilkinson 12-10-0 N Smith
6-4 Derrymoss, 3-1 Sword Beach, 7-2 Sohail, 6-1 Some Day Soon, 14-1 Stepfaster, 16-1 Ballinrostig.

8.20 SCUNTHORPE SLAG HANDICAP HURDLE (£3,017: 2m 3f 110yd) (9)

1 014- SIR NORMAN HOLT 16 (V,F) R O'Sullivan 6-12-0 D O'Sullivan
2 /11- EVER SMILE 16 (D,F) M Pipe 8-11-13 C Maude
3 40/ HALLO MAM 372 (F,G,S) O Brennan 6-11-6 M Brennan
4 /6P- MARLINGFORD 246 (G,S) Mrs J Jordan 8-11-6 D Morris
5 043- FIERY SUN 10 (C,F,G) R Barr 10-11-5 N Smith
6 471- ROYAL CITIZEN 12 (F,G) J Bradley 6-11-1 D Byrne
7 552- WEATHER ALERT 24 (C,G) K Morgan 4-11-0 A S Smith
8 303- WESSEX WARRIOR 24 (F) J Eyre 9-10-13 T Eley (3)
9 1- SASSIVER 28F (F) P Kelleway 5-10-5 D Gallagher
2-1 Ever Smile, 7-2 Sir Norman Holt, 5-1 Royal Citizen, 6-1 Weather Alert, 7-1 Sassiver, 8-1 Fiery Sun, 16-1 others.

8.50 SUMMER EVENING MAIDEN HURDLE (£2,443: 2m 1f 110yd) (12)

1 006- EARLY TO RISE 12 (V) Miss L Siddall 5-11-1 A Thornton
2 / FARNDALE 19F Ronald Thompson 8-11-1 G Harker
3 300- IKHTIRAA 10F R O'Sullivan 5-11-1 D O'Sullivan
4 /20- LITTLE CONKER 88 A Smith 7-11-1 P Niven
5 005- PERSIAN LION 149 F Watson 6-11-1 J Callaghan
6 /PP- WHOCOMESNATURALLY 7 C Smith 6-11-1 M Ranger
7 603- BIBBY BEAR 12 (V) G Kelly 6-10-10 Mr C Mulhall
8 023- CATCH THE PIGEON 14 R Barr 6-10-10 N Smith
9 324- EMERALD CHARM 11 J Charlton 7-10-10 K Johnson
10 63- FAAL MARIO 21 Mrs J Ramsden 4-10-10 R Garritty
11 0- LIGHTNING QUEST 9F J Wainwright 4-10-10 P Midgley (3)
12 205- SWEDISH INVADER 12 J White 4-10-10 P McLoughlin (3)
5-4 Faal Mario, 9-2 Swedish Invader, 6-1 Emerald Charm, 8-1 Little Conker, 10-1 Ikhtiraa, 14-1 Persian Lion, Catch The Pigeon, 16-1 others.

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS: Mrs J Ramsden, 3 winners from 9 runners, 33.3%; M Pipe, 10 from 32, 31.3%; Mrs M Reveley, 19 from 62, 30.6%; J White, 6 from 22, 27.3%; J Jefferson, 5 from 21, 23.8%; I Campbell, 4 from 24, 16.7%.
JOCKEYS: P Niven, 20 winners from 79 rides, 25.3%; L Wyer, 17 from 87, 19.5%; B Storey, 3 from 16, 18.8%; D Byrne, 9 from 56, 16.1%; J Ryan, 6 from 40, 15.0%; A Thornton, 4 from 27, 14.8%.

UTTOXETER TOMORROW

THUNDERER
2.15 Kabayil. 2.50 Flying Eagle. 3.25 Crosula. 3.55 Ruling Dynasty. 4.25 Hit The Canvas. 4.55 Country Practice. 5.25 Prerogative.

GOING: GOOD TO FIRM SIS

2.15 MDT DUCTING HANDICAP HURDLE (£2,814: 3m 110yd) (8 runners)

1 001- KABAYIL 55 (B,C,F,G,S) C Egerton 6-11-10 D Gallagher
2 P53- COUTURE STOCKINGS 13 (C,D,F,G,S) J Mackie 11-11-8 R Dunwoody
3 446- MYHAMET 23 (G,S) P Hobbs 8-11-0 G Tormey (5)
4 052- WILKINS 26 (F,G) R O'Sullivan 6-10-13 D O'Sullivan
5 325- HURRICANE BLAKE 45 (BF,G) D Gandolfo 7-10-11 Peter Hobbs
6 60P- KHAZARI 8 (G,S) R Brotherton 7-10-0 C Llewellyn
7 11P- TEXBIT 34 (CD,F) N Twiston-Davies 5-10-0 Mr R Johnson (7)
8 4F/P CARDINAL RALPH 8 (G,S) Miss A Embiricos 11-10-0 J Ryan
7-4 Kabayil, 4-1 Couture Stockings, 5-1 Texbit, Wilkins, 7-1 Myhamet, 10-1 others.

2.50 BREWERIES OF BURTON UPON TRENT MAIDEN HURDLE (£2,931: 2m) (13)

1 000- GONE AWAY 16 Mrs I McKie 5-11-0 L Harvey
2 LATIN LEADER 377F C Egerton 5-11-0 D Gallagher
3 /23- MY BILLY BOY 25 (B) M Eckley 6-11-0 R Davis
4 P/RR PUBLIC APPEAL 43P W Clay 6-11-0 Diane Clay
5 P04- RED WHIRLWIND 25 R O'Sullivan 5-11-0 D O'Sullivan
6 2504/ SHIPLEY'S TRAIN 444 P Hobbs 6-11-0 Peter Hobbs
7 3/00 VISIMOTION 167 Mrs M Fowler 5-11-0 Gary Lyons
8 0/0- BROOKSONG 172 A James 5-10-9 W Marston
9 42- FLYING EAGLE 35 J White 4-10-9 Richard Guest
10 435- GALA'S PRIDE 8 N Twiston-Davies 8-10-9 C Llewellyn
11 00P- CANARY BLUE 61 P Hiatt 4-10-4 D J Burchell
12 360- NANDURA 219 Miss A Embiricos 4-10-4 J Ryan
13 0P5- SAWTID 9 G Roe 4-10-4 R Bellamy
11-4 Gala's Pride, 7-2 Flying Eagle, 5-1 Shipley's Train, 6-1 My Billy Boy, 8-1 others.

3.25 LADBROKE HANDICAP CHASE (£3,469: 2m 7f) (9)

1 114- SYNDERBOROUGH LAD 39 (C,F,G) S Pike 9-12-0 G Hogan (5)
2 FP1- STAUNCH RIVAL 13 (CD,F,G,S) G Thorner 8-11-11 M A Fitzgerald
3 111- CROSULA 10 (F,G,S) M Pipe 7-11-6 A P McCoy
4 353- NICKLE JOE 56 (CD,F,G,S) M Tate 9-11-6 W Marston
5 /3P- VIRIDIAN 29 (D,F,G,S) J O'Shea 10-11-2 R Dunwoody
6 110- RUSTY BRIDGE 8 (F,G) Mrs S Johnson 8-10-12 Mr R Johnson (7)
7 /P1- JIMMY O'DEA 10 (V,C,F) T Bill 8-10-8 J Railton
8 241- FROZEN DROP 27 (F) P Richens 8-10-6 A Tory
9 150- APPLIANCEOFSCIENCE 215 (F,G) K Warner 8-10-0 R Farrant
6-4 Crosula, 7-2 Staunch Rival, 5-1 Nickle Joe, Jimmy O'Dea, 8-1 Frozen Drop, 10-1 others.

3.55 BBC RADIO STOKE CONDITIONAL JOCKEYS SELLING HURDLE (£2,082: 2m 4f 110yd) (18)

1 553- BONDAID 13 (F,G) J White 11-11-10 D Bohan (5)
2 025- CELCIUS 13 (B,D,F,G,S) M Pipe 11-11-9 D Burrows (5)
3 002- RULING DYNASTY 13 (B,F,G,S) M Usher 11-11-8 G Lewis
4 400- DAGAZ 13 (B,G) B Cambidge 9-11-7 A Procter
5 /02- QUAI D'ORSAY 13 (D,F,G,S) K Wingrove 10-11-4 M Berry (5)
6 53P- MASTER OF THE ROCK 8 (D,F) J Mackie 6-11-4 D Webb (7)
7 544- BILL AND WIN 36 (S) B Preece 4-11-2 G Hogan
8 002- SCARLET EXPRESS 13 (G,S) M Britain 8-11-1 P McLoughlin
9 140- PHROSE 50 (S) J A Harris 5-10-12 T Dascombe
10 034- JOHN TUFTY 22 (G) J Pearce 4-10-11 E Callaghan
11 312- CHICAGO'S BEST 13 (B,C,F,G) K Wingrove 8-10-9 G Tormey
12 U62- QUALITAIR MEMORY 13 (D,F,G,S) A Jones 6-10-9 S Curran
13 /04- ALWAYS ALEX 8 (F,G) J Allen 8-10-8 M Clarke (5)
14 023- NAJEB 13 (V) P Evans 6-10-6 F Leahy
15 026- ALIF 8 W Clay 6-10-5 R Massey
16 023- SHIFT CHANGEOVER 13 (G) S Mellor 4-10-5 Chris Webb
17 004- MARDOOD 12 (G,S) S Clark 10-10-3 B Grattan (5)
18 0/0- BRIGHT SAPPHIRE 13 (CD,F,G,S) D Burchell 9-10-0 T Eley
5-1 Chicago's Best, 6-1 Shift Changeover, 8-1 John Tufty, 10-1 Najeb, 12-1 others.

4.25 BET WITH THE TOTE NOVICES HURDLE (£3,534: 2m 4f 110yd) (10)

1 11- HIT THE CANVAS 8F (F,G) Mrs M Reveley 4-11-4 P Niven
2 RFRR- BROWN ENVELOPE 32 K Warner 7-11-0 G Robertson (7)
3 PP/2 DANCING PIMPERNEL 33 P Richens 9-11-0 A Tory
4 PPP- MERCHANT HOUSE 18 G Fierro 7-11-0 Gary Lyons
5 0PP- SALLOW GLEN 181 (G) P Pritchard 9-11-0 P Pritchard
6 4P2- WINTERS COTTAGE 17 P Evans 7-11-0 M A Fitzgerald
7 123- ASTRAL INVASION 13 (V,C,F) W Clay 4-10-13 Diane Clay
8 221- DALLACHIO 16 (F) P Hobbs 4-10-13 Peter Hobbs
9 3- SHIKAREE 13 M Pipe 4-10-8 A P McCoy
10 040- TURRET 9F R Brotherton 4-10-3 C Llewellyn
2-1 Hit The Canvas, 11-4 Shikaree, Dallachio, 6-1 Astral Invasion, 8-1 others.

4.55 CITY OF STOKE CELEBRATION PLATE NOVICES CHASE (£4,624: 2m 5f) (10)

1 112- COUNTRY PICTURE 13 (F) N Twiston-Davies 12-12-2 C Llewellyn
2 3P1- SAYH 16 (F,S) J White 6-11-9 M A Fitzgerald
3 521- NORTHERN OPTIMIST 8 (F) B Llewellyn 7-11-4 Mr J Llewellyn
4 R42- GOLD GLEN 30 (V) P Mason 7-11-2 B Clifford
5 F33- MANOR RHYME 10 J McConnochie 8-11-2 S McNeill
6 60/ MERIVEL 386 R Rowe 8-11-2 D O'Sullivan
7 1/P4 ROGEVIC BELLE 20 (G) A Jones 7-11-2 Mr G Brown
8 6P5- STERLING BUCK 9 G Yardley 8-11-2 R Davis
9 056- WORLD WITHOUT END 8 (S) W Clay 6-11-2 R Farrant
10 2F4- HENNERWOOD OAK 13 R Price 5-10-4 P McLoughlin
5-2 Country Picture, Sayh, 6-1 Northern Optimist, Manor Rhyme, 8-1 others.

5.25 EAST MERCIA CHAMBER RACING CLUB HANDICAP HURDLE (£2,316: 2m) (15)

1 136- PREROGATIVE 22 (CD,G,S) M Pipe 5-12-0 D Burrows (7)
2 245- KING'S SHILLING 13 (V,D,F,G,S) H Oliver 8-11-7 R Davis
3 602- SRIVIJAYA 8 (D,F,G) Mrs M Reveley 8-11-4 G Lee
4 11FP LUSTREMAN 393 (D,F,G) J Peacock 8-11-3 R Bellamy
5 006- JOHNSTED 9 (D,F,G,S) W Clay 9-11-2 Diane Clay
6 011- NO LIGHT 25 (D,F,G,S) Mrs I McKie 8-10-11 L Harvey
7 326- ALAN BALL 143 (D,F,G,S) Miss S Wilton 9-10-11 D J Burchell
8 P03- SOLEIL DANCER 18 (D,S) D Gandolfo 7-10-10 Peter Hobbs
9 /50- DESERT FORCE 27F (D,F,G,S) G Fierro 6-10-9 —
10 335- LAKE DOMINION 248 (D,F,G) J White 6-10-9 D Skyrme
11 542- WAMDHA 18 (D,G,S) K Morgan 5-10-8 A S Smith
12 042- CORRIN HILL 10 (F,S) R Hodges 8-10-5 R Dunwoody
13 023- COLWAY PRINCE 13 (D,F,G,S) A Jones 7-10-1 S McNeill
14 621- RUN FOR NICK 11 (D,F,G) Miss Z Green 7-10-0 Mr T Morrison
15 216- CLASSIC EXHIBIT 17 (CD,F,G) A Forbes 6-10-0 T Eley (3)
4-1 No Light, 5-1 Prerogative, 7-1 Wamdha, 8-1 Srivijaya, 12-1 others.

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS: C Egerton, 6 winners from 15 runners, 40.0%; K Morgan, 4 from 12, 33.3%; G Thorner, 4 from 13, 30.8%; M Pipe, 36 from 130, 27.7%; Mrs M Reveley, 3 from 13, 23.1%; N Twiston-Davies, 15 from 75, 20.0%.
JOCKEYS: G Tormey, 4 winners from 14 rides, 28.6%; R Dunwoody, 38 from 159, 23.9%; S McNeill, 10 from 42, 23.8%; A S Smith, 4 from 17, 23.5%; J Railton, 7 from 44, 15.9%; M A Fitzgerald, 9 from 66, 13.6%.

WORCESTER

THUNDERER
2.55 Stormtracker. 3.25 Majboor Yafooz. 4.20 No More Trix. 4.50 Polden Pride. 5.25 Blustery Fellow. 5.55 Jimmy's Cross. 6.25 Cades Bay.

GOING: GOOD TO FIRM SIS

2.55 BRANSFORD NOVICES HANDICAP HURDLE (£2,143: 3m) (20 runners)

1 12P- AMILLIONMEMORIES 7 (G) Mrs B Waring 5-11-13 E Byrne
2 664- BREAK EVEN 16 N Gaselee 7-11-10 C Llewellyn
3 201- CATS RUN 26 (F) J Upson 7-11-7 J Supple (3)
4 P25- MOUNTAIN LEADER 43 D Hyde 5-11-6 B Powell
5 355- PRIMO CARNERA 31 J Fitzgerald 5-11-6 E Callaghan (7)
6 033- BEE MOY DO 21 G Balding 7-11-6 A P McCoy
7 111- BALLY PARSON 21 (F,G) R Dickin 9-11-4 D Meredith
8 263- STORMTRACKER 21 C Weedon 6-11-2 Peter Hobbs
9 /05- GREY TRIX 11 T Tate 7-11-0 R Garritty
10 043- ROCHARISARE 7 T Etherington 6-10-10 A Thornton
11 PP6- EXPRESS TRAVEL 73 R Curtis 7-10-9 D Morris
12 464- HOLD YOUR HAT ON 24 (G) C Thornton 6-10-8 D Wilkinson
13 505- LEAP INTO SPRING 18 (B,G,S) J White 6-10-5 P McLoughlin (3)
14 5P5- WISBOROUGH GREEN 12 R Rowe 5-10-0 E Murphy
15 /00- MALLYAN 9 P Pritchard 8-10-0 R Davis
16 /PP- SONNY'S SONG 12 C Jackson 9-10-0 W Humphreys
17 300- CHUKATEN 12 (B) J Mackie 6-10-0 W Marston
18 00P- RAVENSPUR 21 (B) Mrs F Owen 5-10-0 L Aspell (7)
19 506- BAN RI 108 A Neaves 5-10-0 J R Kavanagh
20 P06- [illegible] 17 J Poulton 5-10-0 L O'Hara
5-1 Cats Run, 6-1 Bally Parson, 7-1 Break Even, 8-1 Primo Carnera, Stormtracker, Bee Moy Do, 10-1 Leap Into Spring, Amillionmemories, 12-1 others.

3.25 HOLT NOVICES HURDLE (£2,495: 2m) (16)

1 /R0- CARDINAL KID 24 K Bishop 5-11-0 A Tory
2 4F0- CHAIN SHOT 17 (B,F,G) J Peacock 10-11-0 R Bellamy
3 232- MAJBOOR YAFOOZ 21 J Bosley 5-11-0 M Bosley
4 604- MISSED THE BOAT 12 N Ayliffe 5-11-0 T Eley (3)
5 53- MY MATCHO MAN 10 (B) M Coombe 8-11-0 Sophie Mitchell (5)
6 0PF- ROUND OF DRINKS 155 H Oliver 5-11-0 V Slattery
7 0/0- BROOKSONG 171 A James 5-10-9 W Marston
8 0/0- FRONTRUNNER 22 P Hobbs 7-10-9 G Tormey (5)
9 00- FUCHU 12 D Geraghty 5-10-9 R Supple
10 KILLING TIME 40F Mrs L Richards 4-10-9 S McNeill
11 2- MR DEVIOUS 12 (B) P Hobbs 4-10-9 Peter Hobbs
12 0- ROO'S LEAP 12 C Jackson 7-10-9 W Humphreys
13 P00- TOP MISS 58 A Neaves 6-10-9 J R Kavanagh
14 PP- YOUNG KERMIT 247 R Frost 5-10-9 J Frost
15 MARJORIE'S ORCHID 26F M Heaton-Ellis 4-10-4 C Llewellyn
16 45- RIVERBANK ROSE 16 P Clarke 4-10-4 B Powell
3-1 Mr Devious, 7-2 Majboor Yafooz, 6-1 Missed The Boat, 7-1 Killing Time, 10-1 My Matcho Man, Chain Shot, 12-1 Marjorie's Orchid, Frontrunner, 14-1 others.

4.20 REDHILL HANDICAP CHASE (£4,473: 2m 4f 110yd) (6)

1 111- DEXTRA DOVE 163 (F,G,S) S Earle 8-12-0 S Earle
2 21U- NO MORE TRIX 9 (F,G,S) T Tate 9-11-7 R Garritty
3 13U- CHIP AND RUN 7 (D,F,G) Mrs J Retter 9-10-9 A P McCoy
4 /P0- WHATEVER YOU LIKE 19 (G,S) J Mullins 11-10-7 S Curran (3)
5 02A/ KITTINGER 611 (D,F,G,S) Dr P Pritchard 14-10-0 Dr P Pritchard
6 454- BALLAD RULER 26 (C,G) P Pritchard 9-10-0 R Davis
6-4 No More Trix, 3-1 Chip And Run, 7-2 Dextra Dove, 9-2 Whatever You Like, 14-1 Kittinger, Ballad Ruler.

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS: C Brooks, 6 winners from 19 runners, 31.6%; G Harwood, 3 from 11, 27.3%; P Hobbs, 26 from 102, 25.5%; J Mullins, 4 from 20, 20.0%; K Bishop, 4 from 26, 15.4%; R J Price, 3 from 20, 15.0%.
JOCKEYS: Peter Hobbs, 16 winners from 81 rides, 19.8%; A Thornton, 4 from 21, 19.0%; A Tory, 4 from 23, 17.4%; G McCourt, 14 from 83, 16.9%; J A McCarthy, 3 from 24, 12.5%; W Marston, 11 from 90, 12.2%.

4.50 BROADWAY HANDICAP HURDLE (£3,197: 2m) (10)

1 004- PRINCIPLE MUSIC 9 (G) H Kavanagh 7-11-13 T Murphy (7)
2 21/P BEN ADHEM 27P (G) M Sheppard 13-11-4 Mr E Williams (7)
3 4P6- HAVE A NIGHTCAP 12 (D,G,S) N Littmoden 6-11-2 M Brennan
4 433- NINE O THREE 36 (S) N Ayliffe 6-10-8 Guy Lewis (5)
5 /11- ST JOHN'S HILL 261 (F) Paddy Farrell 7-10-5 W Marston
6 103- SHAMSHADAL 12 (D,S) J Jenkins 5-10-3 J Railton
7 130- POETIC FANCY 227 (F) N Twiston-Davies 4-10-1 C Llewellyn
8 122- POLDEN PRIDE 16 (F) G Balding 7-10-0 A P McCoy
9 0/4- SONEETO 16 (D,G) A Jones 9-10-0 S Curran (3)
10 206- NO BONUS 25 (D,F) R Baker 11-10-0 B Powell
3-1 Poetic Fancy, 7-2 Polden Pride, 6-1 Nine O Three, 8-1 others.

5.25 MALVERN HANDICAP CHASE (£3,566: 2m 7f) (20)

1 444- FURRY KNOWE 32 (B,F,G) Mrs J Retter 10-11-12 A P McCoy
2 P/ UP AND COMING 759 (F,G) A Jones 12-11-9 S McNeill
3 /4F- SNEAKAPENNY 23 (F,G,S) Miss A Embiricos 13-11-7 J R Kavanagh
4 2R3- BLUSTERY FELLOW 9 (C,F,G) N Twiston-Davies 10-11-3 C Llewellyn
5 5P4- BIANCONI 24 (B,G,S) N Gaselee 9-10-10 J Railton
6 6F3- SILLIAN 28 (F,G,S) Mrs A Hewitt 13-10-9 S Wynne
7 232- COURT RAPIER 16 (C,F,G,S) R Alner 13-10-7 P Carey (7)
8 012- ROSS GRAHAM 16 (D,F) Mrs B Waring 7-10-6 E Byrne
9 PP3- AIR COMMANDER 29 (F,G) T Bill 10-10-4 T Wall
10 6P5- VICAR OF BRAY 12 (F,G) G Balding 8-10-3 B Clifford
11 PF2- RUNNING SANDS 20P (S) J Poulton 11-10-3 R Rowell
12 P64- FOXGROVE 12 (F,G) R Price 9-10-1 Jodie Mogford (7)
13 U3P- MATAWAI 12 F Jordan 8-10-1 J Lodder
14 /4P- LOWLANDS 203 Lady Eliza Mays-Smith 9-10-0 J A McCarthy
15 35U- RELTIC 9 (G) C Broad 8-10-0 W Marston
16 052- FICHU 9 (F) G Thorner 7-10-0 B Powell
17 042- WOODLANDS GENHIRE 9 (B,F) P Pritchard 10-10-0 R Davis
18 3PU- BARGAIN AND SALE 9 (F,G,S) D Minty 10-10-0 W McFarland
19 6PP- PEARLY KING 28P (V,G,S) C Jackson 12-10-0 W Humphreys
20 343- EMALLEN 12 Mrs L Jewell 7-10-0 D Leahy (3)
5-1 Ross Graham, 6-1 Blustery Fellow, 8-1 Furry Knowe, 10-1 others.

5.55 GRIMLEY OPEN NATIONAL HUNT FLAT RACE (Div I: £1,688: 2m) (17)

1 00- FALSE CREEK 17 G Harwood 5-11-1 M Perrett
2 FEARLESS HUSSAR Miss R Patman 5-11-1 W Humphreys
3 JIMMY'S CROSS G Balding 5-11-1 A P McCoy
4 0- KINGS HIGH 28 T Thomson Jones 5-11-1 C Llewellyn
5 DEARDS SMASHER N Smith 6-10-10 Mr M Rodda
6 HANDCROSS A Chamberlain 4-10-10 Mr G Brown
7 RU0- INVALUABLE 232 Miss R Patman 5-10-10 D Morris
8 LADY LULLABY R Baker 6-10-10 B Powell
9 00/ MORCAT 398 G Kelly 6-10-10 J Driscoll
10 50- PARSONS KNOCK 28 R Rowe 5-10-10 J Railton
11 0- PRICKLY PATH 28 R Pocock 5-10-10 G Hogan (5)
12 THE CAMPDONIAN H Oliver 4-10-10 Jacqui Oliver
13 0- TUSCAN BUTTERFLY 17 M F-Godley 5-10-10 Peter Hobbs
14 COMEDY HOUR P Murphy 4-10-5 E Murphy
15 0- MINNIE THE MINX 9 D C Tucker 4-10-5 T Murphy (7)
16 5- RAGOSA 28 J Webb 4-10-5 D Bohan (7)
17 000- THE BIZZO 56 J Panvert 4-10-5 J R Kavanagh
5-1 False Creek, 6-1 Jimmy's Cross, 7-1 Kings High, 8-1 Ragosa, 10-1 others.

6.25 GRIMLEY OPEN NATIONAL HUNT FLAT RACE (Div II: £1,674: 2m) (16)

1 CHASSAGNE Mrs A Piggott 5-11-1 R Massey (5)
2 /24- DECISIVE SPICE 9 R Alner 6-11-1 G McCourt
3 00/ KENNINGTON KUWAIT 399 R Juckes 5-11-1 Gary Lyons
4 MIGHTY REAL A James 5-11-1 W Marston
5 60- OUTFIELDER 25 Miss R Patman 5-11-1 W Humphreys
6 0- SIR TURTLE 77 R Rowe 5-11-1 J Railton
7 STROKESAVER C Brooks 5-11-1 M Berry (7)
8 0- BELLE BARONESS 21 J McConnochie 5-10-10 R Bellamy
9 CADES BAY N Twiston-Davies 4-10-10 Mr M Rimell (5)
10 6- CAREYSVILLE 17 J Edwards 4-10-10 D Bentley
11 FAIR HAUL R Frost 4-10-10 J Frost
12 R33- SEYMOURSWIFT 9 B Preece 5-10-10 Mr R Bevis (7)
13 2- TAKE COVER 17 M Tompkins 4-10-10 B Powell
14 TRANELCO A Bailey 4-10-10 A P McCoy
15 65- VISION OF LIGHT 21 H Oliver 5-10-10 Jacqui Oliver
16 0- SIMDGI 58 A Neaves 4-10-5 J R Kavanagh
7-2 Take Cover, 5-1 Cades Bay, 6-1 Strokesaver, 8-1 others.

WOLVERHAMPTON

THUNDERER
7.00 Vintage Taittinger. 7.30 Dream Carrier. 8.00 Mislemani. 8.30 Daytona Beach. 9.00 Miss Offset. 9.30 Present Situation.

GOING: STANDARD DRAW: NO ADVANTAGE SIS

7.00 PEVERIL SECURITIES HANDICAP (3-Y-O: £2,519: 1m 6f 166yd) (12 runners)

1 -040 MAYSANN 33 (B) J Dunlop 9-7 G Duffield 9
2 0000 SADLER'S PEARL 14 B Meehan 9-5 S Whitworth 7
3 4450 FROME LAD 19 W G M Turner 9-5 T Sprake 6
4 00 MY BOY JOSH 26 R Guest 9-5 G Hind 4
5 -030 SHY PADDY 15 (C,G) K Cunningham-Brown 9-3 S Sanders (3) 11
6 -614 ROYAL RABBIT 10 (BF,G) G L Moore 9-0 A Whelan (5) 8
7 000 PEATSVILLE 19 M Channon 8-12 P P Murphy (5) 10
8 -015 VINTAGE TAITTINGER 36 (C,BF,G) M Bell 8-11 J Carroll 1
9 -335 SOMETHING SPEEDY 37 (C,G) P Bevan 8-9 N Carlisle 3
10 0-35 REMONTANT 11 R Hollinshead 8-8 A Garth (3) 5
11 00-0 ADJACENT TOO 19 C C Elsey 8-6 C Rutter 2
12 5600 WARRIOR LADY 16 P McBride 7-13 N Varley (5) 12
4-1 Royal Rabbit, 9-2 Vintage Taittinger, 5-1 Maysann, Shy Paddy, 6-1 others.

7.30 RYDER CONTRACT HIRE CLAIMING STAKES (£2,519: 7f) (7)

1 2225 WENTBRIDGE LAD 5 (CD,G,S) P Evans 5-9-8 S Sanders (3) 7
2 0420 FOUR OF SPADES 61 (D,G) W Cunningham 4-9-2 J Carroll 1
3 3250 ROCKY WATERS 47 (D,F,G) G L Moore 6-9-2 A Whelan (5) 6
4 2106 CHADLEIGH LANE 15 (CD,G) R Hollinshead 3-8-12 G Duffield 3
5 5466 DREAM CARRIER 21J (CD,G) J O'Shea 7-8-10 A Sanders (7) 5
6 6040 LETSBEONESTABOUTIT 7 (V,C,D,F,G,S) Miss G Kelleway 9-8-8 M Wigham 4
7 6506 PERFECT WORLD 30 B McMahon 3-8-2 Dale Gibson 2
9-4 Wentbridge Lad, 7-2 Rocky Waters, 4-1 Four Of Spades, 5-1 others.

8.00 CAVENDISH RACING MAIDEN HANDICAP (£3,445: 7f) (10)

1 0300 ROSSINI BLUE 9 (B) A Bailey 4-10-0 V Halliday (5) 9
2 550 MIGHTY SQUAW 28 Miss G Kelleway 3-9-7 M Wigham 7
3 -003 MISLEMANI 9 A Newcombe 5-8-8 R Price 2
4 -635 CADDY'S FIRST 8 S Mellor 3-8-5 Dale Gibson 4
5 00-2 BARGASH 14 P Evans 3-8-2 S Sanders (3) 1
6 30-0 JHAN JEON 22 R Fahey 3-7-10 T Williams 6
7 50-0 UNISON 8 (V) C Barwell 4-7-8 N Adams 8
8 5333 SPEEDY SNAPS PRIDE 8 P Cundell 3-7-7 N Varley (5) 3
9 -056 DELGARTH LADY 42 (B) J Spearing 4-7-7 N Kennedy 5
10 -300 MONESHETTI 18 R Hollinshead 4-7-7 N Carlisle 10
11-4 Bargash, 7-2 Speedy Snaps Pride, 4-1 Caddy's First, 5-1 Mislemani, 6-1 Mighty Squaw, 8-1 Unison, 10-1 others.

8.30 EDMUND BIRTHDAY APPRENTICES HANDICAP (£2,550: 1m 1f 79yd) (6)

1 0016 AITCH N'BEE 14 (CD,F,G,S) Lady Herries 12-10-0 J McAuley (5) 2
2 1103 DAYTONA BEACH 10 (D,G) P Burgoyne 5-9-4 Debbie Biggs 5
3 3613 EQUERRY 17 (F) M Johnston 4-9-4 K Sked (5) 6
4 1305 MEDLAND 8 (F,G) B McMath 5-8-6 R Moogan 4
5 6021 DIA GEORGY 8 (C,F,G,S) R Guest 4-8-7 C Webb 1
6 -101 WHITELOCK QUEST 28 (C,G) N Berry 7-7-9 Adelle Gibbons 3
5-2 Daytona Beach, 3-1 Equerry, 7-2 Dia Georgy, 4-1 Whitelock Quest, 9-2 Aitch N'Bee, 12-1 Medland.

9.00 UES BRIGHT BAR SELLING STAKES (2-Y-O: £2,243: 6f) (7)

1 CHRIS'S GOVERNOR (B) R Hollinshead 8-11 A Garth (3) 2
2 GINGER GLINT M Heaton-Ellis 8-11 Stephen Davies 5
3 2316 NAMELESS 28 (C,G) D Cosgrove 8-11 J Fortune 7
4 34 RED SIMBA 54 J Berry 8-11 J Carroll 1
5 6 ROWHOME 54 M Channon 8-11 C Rutter 3
6 032 MAGIC BIRD 14 J Spearing 8-6 G Hind 6
7 3620 MISS OFFSET 19 (B) M Johnston 8-6 T Williams 4
9-4 Red Simba, 3-1 Nameless, 9-2 Miss Offset, 6-1 Chris's Governor, 7-1 Magic Bird, 8-1 Ginger Glint, 14-1 Rowhome.

9.30 BREASTPLATE HANDICAP (£3,374: 6f) (9)

1 -412 PRESENT SITUATION 105 (C,BF,G) Lord Huntingdon 4-10-0 J Weaver 3
2 0500 FRISKY MISS 12 (CD,F,G,S) K Cunningham-Brown 4-9-6 G Duffield 9
3 4226 TYRONE FLYER 7 (G,S) G Fierro 6-9-1 M Wigham 7
4 -035 MY GALLERY 8 (B,BF,S) A Bailey 4-8-9 V Halliday (5) 2
5 1050 NOOR EL HOUDAH 14 (D,F,G) J Berry 3-8-4 J Carroll 6
6 1241 EFFICACY 8 (CD,G) A Jarvis 4-8-2 N Varley (5) 4
7 06-0 RING THE CHIEF 19 R Akehurst 3-7-13 S Sanders (3) 8
8 00/ GANESHAYA 528J (D,G,S) J Spearing 6-7-9 N Carlisle 1
9 0603 HO MEI SURPRISE 8 B Preece 3-7-7 N Adams 5
11-4 Present Situation, 3-1 Efficacy, 5-1 Ho Mei Surprise, 11-2 Ring The Chief, 7-1 My Gallery, 8-1 Frisky Miss, Noor El Houdah, 10-1 others.

Racing next week

MONDAY: Nottingham (first race, 2.30), Pontefract (2.45), Warwick (6.15), Windsor (6.30).
TUESDAY: Redcar (2.45), Salisbury (2.30)
WEDNESDAY: Beverley (2.00), Hamilton Park (7.00), Kempton Park (6.40), Yarmouth (2.15).
THURSDAY: Chepstow (6.45), Hamilton Park (2.15), Newbury (2.00), Yarmouth (6.30)
FRIDAY: Edinburgh (6.55), Goodwood (6.40), Market Rasen (6.50), Sandown Park (2.15), Southwell (AW, 2.30), York (C4, 2.10).
SATURDAY: Bath (2.00), Lingfield Park (6.30), Leicester (6.40), Market Rasen (2.05), Sandown Park (2.30), Warwick (6.50), York (C4, 2.15).

Flat meetings in bold

Saturday portrait: Sheikh Mohammed Bin Rashid al-Maktoum, by Julian Muscat

Racing waits to acclaim owner within reach of prize beyond riches

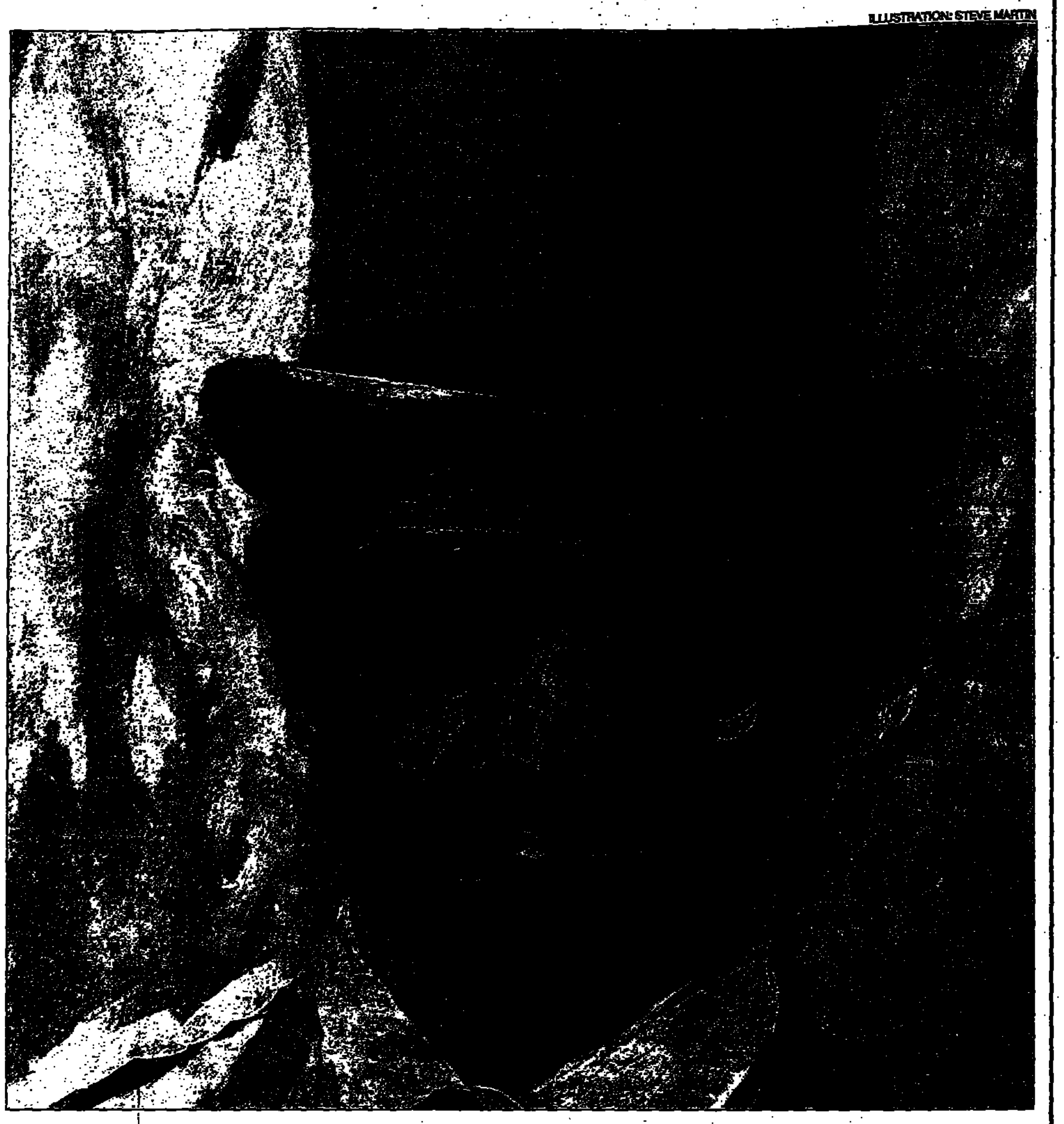


ILLUSTRATION: STEVE MARTIN

When you have been snubbed by the establishment, when you have persisted in the face of resentment, and when you have maintained dignity as others revel in your misfortune, the moment of triumph must be truly priceless. *Sheikh Mohammed, owner of* Pennekamp, the overwhelming Derby favourite, today stands on the threshold of racing legend.

It pays him handsome tribute *that the summit is within reach,* for the Sheikh, much maligned and hopelessly misunderstood, has had every conceivable reason *to retreat from the racing game.* Where others have wilted, he has drawn inspiration. Where others have resigned, he has grown stronger. Now, 20 years after he bought his first racehorse, most people want to smile with Sheikh Mohammed at Epsom. They are willing his Derby drought to end.

To observe this quest has been as torturous as Ivan Lendl's pur*suit of the Wimbledon title. If* Lendl's robotic features were once anathema, the British tennis public was eventually charmed by the *man behind them. So it has been* with Sheikh Mohammed. Those once inscrutable eyes now glint in the light. He has acquired a new*found confidence. There is sub*stance, after all, to the swashbuckling character we had heard of but never before seen. Indeed, *should Pennekamp win, the racing* world will gain its biggest insight yet into the man behind the mask.

That it has taken Pennekamp, a $40,000 yearling purchase, to bring to life the Derby dream is heavily laced with irony. For years, Sheikh Mohammed, 46 and rich beyond imagination, has assaulted Epsom with horses of million-dollar backgrounds. Pennekamp is one of the cheapest yearlings he has bought. Yet it was he who once said: "Horses are not like motor cars. The most expensive is not always the winner."

The key to understanding this public transformation lies in what has gone before. Harmony was always a distant horizon when, in 1981, Sheikh Mohammed Bin Rashid al-Maktoum, the Crown Prince of Dubai, unleashed a spray of petro-dollars on the unsuspecting racing community. The spree was to peak two years later, when he gave $10.2 million for an *untested horse.*

The price more than doubled the record for a yearling purchase, but the Sheikh was unmoved. In fact, *Snaafi Dancer, as the thoroughbred* was named, proved all but worthless. He never made it to the racecourse. However, initial excitement that the Sheikhs were to *race their horses in Britain quickly* subsided under the weight of the Maktoums's ambition, with Sheikh Mohammed acting as its *nucleus. His involvement reached* monopolistic proportions in 1989, when he won seven of Europe's 15 leading classics and all three championship races at Royal Ascot. But his enthusiasm, which *knew no bounds, was to prove his* Achilles' heel.

> 'It is accepted that British racing would be in the doldrums but for his patronage'

His racing and breeding operation expanded to a scale beyond *sound management. At its height,* more than 70 trainers of around 750 horses were employed in eight countries. Yet success in Britain, where he most desired it, proved elusive in the early 1990s.

It became evident that defeat served only to spur Sheikh Mohammed to an even greater frenzy of spending. Arazi, the champion two-year-old of 1991, proved an irresistible bait, the Sheikh reportedly paying $9 million for a half-share. It was all too much for public consumption.

However, Arazi was to founder in the 1992 season, which, by all accounts, was to prove a watershed for Sheikh Mohammed. He was detained for fully six months before Zieten, like Pennekamp trained in France by André Fabre, garnered a first group one victory for the maroon and white silks. This lengthy wait was seized upon by a majority of racing commentators, who could barely contain their glee at the insignificant returns from an operation costing well in excess of £1 billion to establish and absorbing some £350,000 a week *in training fees.*

That the sport's impression of Sheikh Mohammed has changed is due, in large measure, to two factors. An awkward impasse *divided the Maktoums and the* once-powerful Jockey Club, whose members were loath to welcome them into the racing community. *But Lord Hartington, the former* senior steward whose innovative approach brought down the Jockey Club's bastions, has since privately conveyed his appreciation of the Sheikhs' involvement.

If that has made an enormous difference, the changing face of Sheikh Mohammed himself has been expressed through his hands-on involvement with Godolphin, the desert-based racing stable whose runners have excelled across the globe. To say that he has pioneered a revolution in contemporary thoroughbred attitudes is no exaggeration.

If resigned amusement greeted Sheikh Mohammed's announce*ment that a string of horses was to* be trained under his daily supervision in Dubai, "the experiment", as it was dubbed, paid instant *dividends. Godolphin's record has* been well documented; yesterday, Moonshell won the Oaks, and today Vettori and Lammtarra run in the Derby. There is obvious pride in his achievements.

In Dubai, oil revenues that can be daily counted in their millions have transformed the 1,100 square-mile territory, on the banks of the Persian Gulf, into a thriving business community. From the sand have risen theatres to commerce and sport, principally the inspiration of Sheikh Mohammed, who remains the driving force. By his ten children from the same wife, Sheikha Hind, he has more than ensured the project's continuity.

Although heavily Westernised, Dubai's heart remains its heritage. The process was initiated by the late ruler, Sheikh Rashid, a dashing and popular man who led his warriors in camel raids on neighbouring territories. Sheikh Mohammed, his third son, is said to have inherited many of his traits. In hindsight, how could a man of his invention stand by and watch a plethora of trainers proceed with his horses? Godolphin, the tightly-run stable, is an inevitable extension of the Sheikh's spirit.

Much remains to be learned about Sheikh Mohammed, although he has proved as good as his word. He has maintained he will race horses in England for as long as he is wanted. Now, it is fair to say that he is wanted very much. It has been accepted that British racing would be in the doldrums but for his patronage. So comprehensively have he and his brothers reversed the flow of top-class horses to the United States that British racing is the envy of the world. Records also show that he has cut back on the numbers which so overwhelmed existing owners. This corresponds with his uncharacteristically low-key approach to the yearling auctions last July.

The signs clearly point to the scaling down of an operation which spiralled, through enthusiasm, out of all proportion at the start of the decade. A more compact set-up would suit the racing industry and Sheikh Mohammed, who has never lost sight of the fact that the thoroughbred originally descended from three Arab stallions.

He once said of the thoroughbred: "I love this breed. These animals are not machines. They are soul and flesh and blood." Now that Sheikh Mohammed has shown that he, too, is soul and flesh and blood, his marriage with the world of racing can finally flourish.

Pennekamp to give Epsom master-class

Richard Evans believes the first Saturday Derby since 1952 will be graced by victory for an outstanding French-trained favourite

THE first Derby to be staged at Epsom on a Saturday since *the Coronation* year of 1952 can be crowned this afternoon by Pennekamp providing the most formidable owner-trainer partnership in Europe with their first success in the Blue Riband.

Sheikh Mohammed is the biggest owner of horses in the world and has invested untold millions in a so far unsuccessful pursuit of racing's ultimate prize. His hunger for victory has never been keener and Dubai's crown prince knows a relatively cheap 40,000 dollars purchase offers the best chance of ending a dismal Derby record which has seen all but one of his 14 Derby runners finish well out of the *frame.*

For André Fabre, the Chantilly-based trainer who has won nearly 300 group races *since he took out* a licence in 1978, success would fill one of the few remaining gaps in an outstanding career and, in the *process, provide* France with a much-needed Epsom winner.

Thirty years have passed since Sea-Bird, recently voted *by readers of Racing Post,* the specialist racing newspaper, the outstanding post-war Derby champion, crossed the *Channel to run out one* of the easiest and most spectacular winners of the race. Since then 44 French horses have made *the trip to Epsom but only* Empery, in 1976, has emerged triumphant.

The case in favour of Pennekamp *is as watertight as one could wish in advance of* any Derby. Unbeaten in his six starts, including three group one races, the latest of which saw him defeat Celtic *Swing in the 2,000 Guineas,* his form is sufficiently strong to have enabled him to win four of the last five runnings of the Derby. The exception is the *outstanding Generous,* who won for Paul Cole four years ago.

Those who wish to quibble with Pennekamp's first-class credentials will point to stamina and jockeyship. The son of Bering is not certain to stay the stamina sapping 1½ miles around Epsom but, as Fabre pointed out pertinently after winning the Guineas, if a horse is certain to stay the Derby trip his lack of speed will probably ensure he finishes fourth or fifth.

Bering, second to Dancing Brave in the 1986 Arc, has produced offspring which have tended to be best between a mile and ten furlongs, while the sire of Pennekamp's dam was the non-staying French 2,000 Guineas winner, Green Dancer. Pennekamp certainly has an abundance of speed but there is plenty of stamina further back in the female line and his relaxed style of racing *suggests he should get the trip. Timeform,* the respected racing analysts, state categorically he will stay 1½ miles. I believe he will stay and win.

[illegible]

RICHARD EVANS
1, PENNEKAMP
2, *Munwar*
3, Tamure

JULIAN MUSCAT
1, PENNEKAMP
2, Tamure
3, Lammtarra

THUNDERER
1, MUNWAR
2, Pennekamp
3, *Tamure*

GERALD HUBBARD
(Private Handicapper)
1, PENNEKAMP
2, Spectrum
3, Vettori

Jockeyship is a trickier topic and tends to be laced with a fair share of xenophobia. It is true to say French jockeys, *notably Freddie Head,* have not excelled themselves around this unique course and Jarnet has some unhappy memories from a couple of years ago when riding Apple Tree in the Coronation Cup.

However, the three times French champion learned from his mistakes last year when winning the same race and his confidence will have been boosted by victory on Yoush in yesterday's final race in which he rode a perfectly judged race on a horse ill at ease on the cambers and undulations.

The main danger to Pennekamp, on the form book at least, is Spectrum, the Irish 2,000 Guineas winner. Here again, stamina doubts persist as his dam has never bred a winner over 12 furlongs in *spite of matings with stronger* influences for stamina than Rainbow Quest, the sire of the Peter Chapple-Hyam-trained *colt. I am far from convinced* he will see out a truly run 1½ miles.

Peter Walwyn has never had Munwar, the *Lingfield* Derby Trial winner, in better form and, while the Lambourn trainer does not *believe the Kalaglow colt quite* has the class of Grundy, whom he sent out to win the Derby in 1975, he is every bit *as good as Linden Tee and* Oats, who reached a place in 1971 and 1976 respectively. If there is a chink in *Pennekamp's armour, the galloping* son of Kalaglow could be best placed to take advantage.

The faster the ground the *better for Presenting, whose* disappointing run in the Dante Stakes can be attributed to the rain-affected going. However, *I prefer the other Gosden runner,* Tamure, who beat Sebastian at Newmarket and then retained his unbeaten record in the Glasgow Stakes at York despite not getting the run of the race.

Lammtarra, owned by the increasingly influential Godolphin team, is undoubtedly the dark horse in the race and Walter Swinburn has been making bullish noises about the impeccably bred son of Nijinsky and the promoted Oaks winner, Snow Bride. *However, no horse has won* the Derby on only his second outing on a racecourse since Morston 22 years ago.

Epsom awaits, page 1
Moonshell's Oaks, page 40
Racecards, pages 40, 41

DERBY RUNNERS, RIDERS, COLOURS AND FORM

3.50 VODAFONE DERBY STAKES

(Group I: 3-Y-O: £473,000: 1m 4f 10yd) (15 runners)

C4

401	(15)	6131-22	**COURT OF HONOUR** 13 (G,S) (R Sangster) P Chapple-Hyam 9-0 (b c Law Society - Captive Island)	B Thomson	82
402	(11)	42-503	**DAFFAQ** 12 (Hamdan Al-Maktoum) P Walwyn 9-0 (b c Unfuwain - Awayed)	B Rouse	51
403	(12)	43146-3	**FAHAL** 18 (F,G) (Hamdan Al-Maktoum) D Morley 9-0 *(b c Silver Hawk - By Land By Sea)*	R Hills	81
404	(6)	11-11	**HUMBEL** 28 (F,G,S) *(Dr M Smurfit)* D Weld (Ire) 9-0 (b c Theatrical - Claxton's Slew)	*M J Kinane*	*87*
405	(14)	00-641	**KORAMBI** 21 (D,F) (B Voak) C Brittain 9-0 (ch c Kris - Green Lucia)	M Roberts	73
406	(7)	1-	**LAMMTARRA** 302 (G) (Saeed Maktoum Al-Maktoum) Saeed bin Suroor 9-0 (ch c *Nijinsky - Snow Bride)*	W R Swinburn	71
407	(10)	013-132	**MARALINGA** 25 (G) *(D & Mrs J Oliver)* M Bell 9-0 (ch c Simply Great - Bellinzona)	M Fenton	77
408	(3)	31-11	**MUNWAR** 28 (F,S) (Hamdan Al-Maktoum) P Walwyn 9-0 (b c Kalaglow - Oatfield)	W Carson	85
409	(5)	1111-11	**PENNEKAMP** 35 (F,G,S) (Sheikh Mohammed) A Fabre (Fr) 9-0 (b c Bering - Coral Dance)	T Jarnet	99
410	(2)	11-113	**PRESENTING** 24 (BF,F,G) (G Strawbridge) J Gosden 9-0 *(br c Mtoto - D'Azy)*	C Asmussen	89
411	(8)	312	**RIYADIAN** 28 (G) *(HRH Prince Fahd Salman) P Cole 9-0* (ch c Polish Precedent - Knight's Baroness)	T Quinn	84
412	(1)	31-6	**SALMON LADDER** 24 (S) (M Arbib) P Cole 9-0 (b c Bering - Ballerina Princess)	K Darley	74
413	(4)	1-11	**SPECTRUM** 20 (F,G,S) (Lord Weinstock) P Chapple-Hyam 9-0 (b c Rainbow Quest - River Dancer)	J Reid	95
414	(13)	*111*	**TAMURE** 23 *(D,F,G) (Sheikh Mohammed)* J Gosden 9-0 (b c Sadler's Wells - Three Tails)	*L Dettori*	*90*
415	(9)	41-1	**VETTORI** 27 (G,S) (Maktoum Al-Maktoum/Godolphin) Saeed bin Suroor 9-0 (b c Machiavellian - Air Distingue)	R Cochrane	94

BETTING: Coral: 6-4 Pennekamp, 7-2 Spectrum, 6-1 Tamure, 10-1 Munwar, 12-1 Lammtarra, Presenting, 16-1 Humbel, Riyadian, Vettori, 25-1 Salmon Ladder, 66-1 *Court Of Honour*, Fahal, *150-1 Korambi, 200-1 Maralinga,* 1,000-1 Daffaq.

Ladbrokes: 11-8 Pennekamp, 7-2 Spectrum, 7-1 Munwar, 9-1 Tamure, 10-1 Presenting, 16-1 Humbel, Lammtarra, Vettori, 25-1 *Riyadian*, 40-1 Salmon Ladder, Court Of Honour, 66-1 *Fahal, 250-1 Korambi, Maralinga, 1,000-1 Daffaq.*

Tote: 11-8 *Pennekamp, 100-30 Spectrum, 10-1 Munwar, Tamure, 12-1 Lammtarra, Presenting,* 20-1 *Vettori*, 25-1 Humbel, 33-1 Riyadian, Salmon Ladder, 40-1 Court Of Honour, 66-1 Fahal, 200-1 Korambi, Maralinga, 500-1 Daffaq.

William Hill: 11-10 Pennekamp, 3-1 Spectrum, 9-1 Tamure, 12-1 Munwar, Presenting, 16-1 Humbel, Lammtarra, 20-1 *Vettori*, 25-1 Riyadian, 33-1 *Salmon Ladder, 50-1 Court Of Honour, 66-1 Fahal,* 200-1 Korambi, *Maralinga,* 1,000-1 Daffaq.

1994: ERHAAB 9-0 W Carson (7-2 fav) J Dunlop 25 ran

COURT OF HONOUR 1½l 2nd of 12 to Luso in group I Derby Italiano at Capanelle (1m 4f, good to firm). *Previously head 2nd of 7 to Luso in the* 7-runner group III Dalham Chester Vase at *Chester* (1m 4f 66yd, good to firm) with MARALINGA ¾l 3rd.

DAFFAQ 2¾l 3rd of 4 to Blaze of Song in *a conditions race at Chepstow* (1m, good to soft).

FAHAL short-head and neck 3rd of 6 to Pentire *in a listed race at Goodwood* (1m 2f, good to firm).

HUMBEL beat Shemaran neck in the 8-runner group III Derrinstown Stud Derby Trial at Leopardstown (1m 2f, good to firm).

KORAMBI beat High Standard ¾l in a 7-*runner handicap* at Newbury (1m 4f, good to firm).

LAMMTARRA beat *Myself* ¾l in a 6-runner listed race at Newbury (7f, good) with DAFFAQ 6¾l 4th.

MUNWAR beat RIYADIAN head in the 7-runner group III Tripleprint Derby Trial at Lingfield (1m 3f 106yd, firm).

PENNEKAMP beat Celtic Swing head in the 11-runner group I Madagans 2,000 *Guineas at Newmarket (1m, good to* firm).

PRESENTING 4¾l 3rd of 8 to Classic Cliche in the group II Homeowners Dante Stakes at York (1m 2f 85yd, good) *with SALMON LADDER 5¾l 8th.*

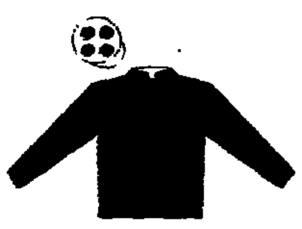
SALMON LADDER previously beat *DAFFAQ 7l in a 4-runner maiden at York* (1m, good to soft).

SPECTRUM beat *Adjareli* 1l in the 9-runner group I First National Building Society Irish 2,000 Guineas at The Curragh (1m, good to firm).

TAMURE beat Minds Music neck in a 5-runner conditions race at York (1m 2f 85yd, good). Previously beat Sebastian 1l in Newmarket conditions race (1m 4f, good to firm).

VETTORI beat Atticus short-neck in the *8-runner group I Dubai Poule d'Essai* des Poulains Stakes at Longchamp (1m, soft).

Selection: PENNEKAMP

COURT OF HONOUR


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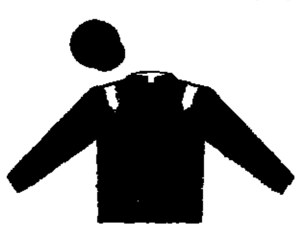

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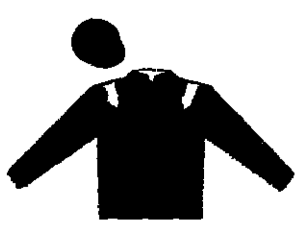

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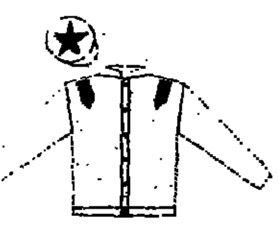

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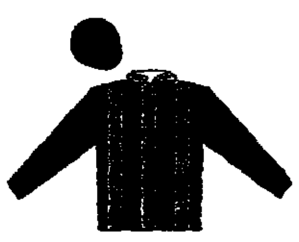

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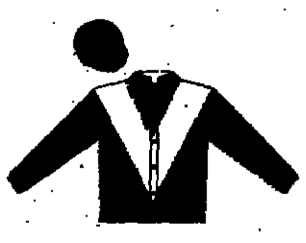

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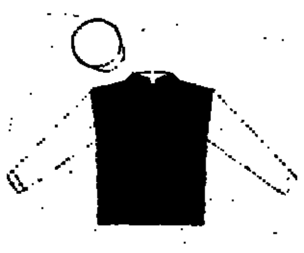

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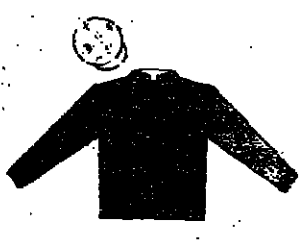

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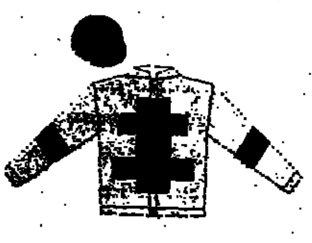

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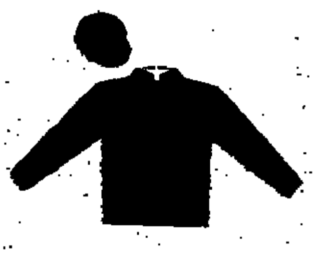

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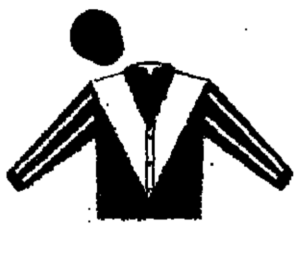

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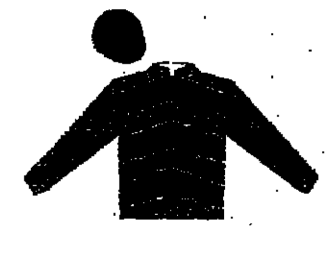

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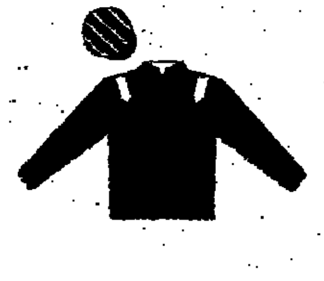

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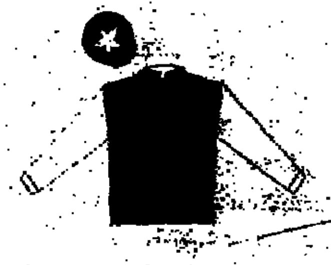

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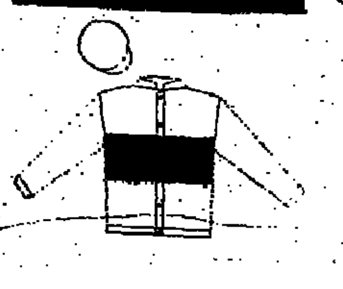

English endeavour must not dull flair

Little bit of magic worth much more than loss of pride

By Rob Hughes, football correspondent

THE final weekend of a painfully extended football season divides us in heart and mind. It would be nice, this afternoon at Nottingham, if Japan could claim at least a point in the Umbro Cup from Sweden, and thus take some reward for their attempt at catch-up on the world game.

And tomorrow? Brazil, who have attracted spectators in the Midlands and the North like bees to honey, play England. This is the real division. Do we, as patriots, want to see England triumph, a victory that almost certainly would entail dulling the Brazilian flair? Or are we men enough to hope for a third and final glimpse of the beautiful game, the amalgam of craft, technique and joyous expression that the world champions have brought to our late season?

Unashamedly, I am in the latter category. The 1995 Brazil is, if anything, on a slightly higher level than the more worldly, more pragmatic XI that won back the World Cup in the United States last July.

Within months of that achievement, Brazil began their transition and so, in England this past week, we have marvelled at Roberto Carlos, 22, the galvanic full-back with the potent left foot. We have seen Juninho, also 22 but, at 5ft 4in, with the appearance of a schoolboy, provide that missing creative element, a third attacker playing just behind the front two.

The incomparable Romario, fulfilled and almost instantly disinterested by winning the ultimate trophy, has all but disappeared; Bebeto has been engaged with his Spanish club, Deportivo La Coruña. In their place Edmundo, 24, almost as hypnotically in control of the ball as Romario, sometimes as irresponsible, is paired with Ronaldo, 18, full of youthful exuberance.

How will England cope? "We need to knock a few of them over," Barry Venison, who may well have been among Terry Venables's team had he been fit, commented. "We need to get David Batty among them; upset them a little."

Heaven forbid. If England were to contain Brazil's fine arts by spoiling the game, then this observer would rather see six Brazilian goals. So, undoubtedly, would Pelé, who flew into London yesterday. Pelé, now the Minister for Sport, will cast his eye over the little, darting maestro, Juninho, who dares to wear his No 10 jersey.

Supposing, just supposing, that England dare to meet attack with attack, an option that many professionals favour? The word is that Brazil, with both full-backs, Jorginho and Roberto Carlos, adventurous, might be vulnerable to the cross from the flanks.

Thomas Ravelli, the Sweden goalkeeper who faced England on Thursday, has a view on that. "England hit a lot of very easy crosses," he said. "They hit them high, and most of them are catchable." Nevertheless, since crosses did enable England to score late goals that glossed over dire embarrassment against both Japan and Sweden, that route, particularly involving Darren Anderton, and the free kicks of Paul Gascoigne are bound to figure sooner or later.

Only Venables knows how soon. Gascoigne has been peripheral except when the pace of games has slowed and he, coming on as a substitute, was a beacon not only because of his bleached scalp but because his timing of the ball, his ability to hold and then stroke it, set him so clearly apart from other Englishmen.

Television replays showed that there is still a reckless, destructive streak in him, the elbow to the fore. But should England, attempting to set a rhythm of their own, risk Gascoigne from the start, playing him and, if need be, substituting him this time when his lack of full match fitness shows?

It is a wretched conclusion of the past week that, in our depleted squad, this half-fit athlete has almost no rival in importance to the team. A Gascoigne bit-part has registered more than the ungainly efforts of so many others. And, alarmingly, Venables, still the hope for English football as the man who can coach tactics beyond the long ball, observed on Thursday that England had improved their attacking movement, but they had sacrificed even basic stability in defence.

That sounds as if attack and defence are exclusive entities. It was João Saldanha, who built the 1970 Brazil team, who observed: "Football is like a short blanket in winter. If you keep the neck warm, your feet get cold. The art is to live within that blanket."

Wednesday make move for Pleat

By Peter Ball

DAVID PLEAT is expected to become the new manager of Sheffield Wednesday next week. Luton gave Wednesday permission to approach Pleat yesterday and, providing compensation is agreed, they are unlikely to stand in Pleat's way.

The Yorkshire club has a board meeting on Monday, and may even be able to confirm Pleat as their new manager in place of Trevor Francis then. Last night, the main matter outstanding was reaching agreement with Luton and that may be solved this weekend.

Pleat is in his second spell at Luton, this time in even more straitened circumstances than the first time around. As a result they have not enjoyed the success they had in his first spell when he took them into the first division, but his ability to find and coach young players and his style of football have won widespread admiration. His belief in attacking play makes him a natural target for Sheffield Wednesday, whose supporters demand style even above success.

Pleat had his year of success as manager of Tottenham Hotspur, taking them to third in the first division and to the FA Cup Final in 1987. He left in the winter of 1987 after personal problems made the headlines, but his return to a big club, if one that has rarely threatened to disturb the major powers, is belated.

While Brazil and England are taking part in an exhibition of the footballing skills, even if unwittingly in England's case, at Wembley tomorrow, Ireland and Austria will be playing for more serious stakes in Dublin. Both know that a win is central to their hopes of qualifying for next summer's European championships.

A week ago writing such a thought was almost unthinkable, but Ireland's failure to win in Liechtenstein, however, suddenly opened up group six. A win tomorrow for Ireland would make that a minor failure. In a week of astonishing results, Northern Ireland threw away their hopes of exploiting Ireland's stumble by losing at home to Latvia.

Sherry runs into form just in time for final challenge

By John Hopkins
Golf correspondent

GORDON SHERRY, who is probably the best amateur golfer in Britain and Ireland, having finished second in five leading amateur events starting last June, will play Michael Reynard, the Worcestershire amateur champion, in the final of the Amateur Championship at the Royal Liverpool Club at Hoylake this morning. Yesterday, Sherry moved into a higher gear from his previous performances in the event this week and beat Roger Beames, a fellow Scotsman, by 4 and 2 to reach the final for the second year in succession.

Sherry has taken his time to mature to his best form at Hoylake, but he seems to be close to it now. Whereas he started slowly in every preceding match, being down at the turn in most of them, against Beames he was three up after six holes. Sherry's swing looked rhythmical on a magical summer's afternoon of sun, lark-song and a north-westerly wind. Beames, on the other hand, has a quicker and shorter backswing and was fighting both a hook from the tee as well as the intimidating factors of Sherry's experience, skill and his 6ft 8in presence.

Sherry came through a tight match in the morning, defeating David Howell, the England international and Walker Cup squad member, by one hole after being three down with six to go. Sherry then carried on playing as well after lunch as he had at the conclusion of his morning match.

"When I was three down with six to go this morning, I thought I was down the road," Sherry said, "but then, having beaten David, I relaxed and the more relaxed I was, the better I played." It was the first of Sherry's matches that did not go up the 17th.

HUGH ROUTLEDGE

Reynard plays to the 14th green in the Amateur Championship at Hoylake yesterday

In the final today, Reynard, a 33-year-old reinstated amateur, may still be shocked by the manner of his semi-final victory when he won the last four holes against Jody Fanagan or he may be able to carry on where he left off. Fanagan presented Reynard with two of the holes — the 15th and 17th; Reynard made sure of winning the other two with magnificent shots.

On the 15th, he laid a 30-yard bunker shot three feet from the hole. On the 18th, when, by his own admission, he said he felt like jelly, he played his shot of the week — a seven iron from the rough that bounded on to the green and came to a halt 18 feet from the flag. He holed it for a victory that four holes earlier had seemed most unlikely.

Reynard had been due to fly to Portugal on holiday this morning. His first act after shaking hands with Fanagan was to telephone his travel agent and alter his booking to Sunday morning and hope that, in the event of his winning today, he would not have celebrated so heavily he would be unable to catch that plane, too.

Sherry, 21, is the favourite for today's 36-hole final after playing so consistently in the past 12 months, but Reynard would not discount himself altogether. After all, he recovered from the dead to beat Fanagan, the funeral director from Dublin. He can upset the odds once more.

Masterly Langer enjoys home rule

From Mel Webb
in Hamburg

THE agony and ecstasy of the Royal and Ancient game of golf was perfectly illustrated by the fortunes of two men in adjacent groups in the Deutsche Bank Open Tournament Players' Championship yesterday. For one the day was an unalloyed success, to the other it brought nothing but embarrassment and misery.

Bernhard Langer is a formidable adversary at any time, but put him into a tournament in his native land and he becomes even more remorseless. He has eight tournament victories to his name in Germany and took a huge step towards making it nine when he had a perfect 66 at Gut Kaden to finish on 133, 11 under par and four shots ahead of his nearest pursuer, Jamie Spence.

Langer had hardly signed his card before John Daly tottered into the recorder's tent bearing a card full of calamity and a head full of bewilderment. He dropped five shots in the first five holes, finished with a humbling 77 and walked away a confused and unhappy man, having missed the cut by two shots.

"It was a bad, bad round of golf," he said. "My good shots turned out bad, and my bad shots worse. I'm as much in shock as anybody."

Daly endured many low spots on a chilly northern German day, but nowhere was his depression deeper than on the 3rd, a par-five of 537 yards, where he drove out of bounds and finished with a double-bogey seven.

"The out of bounds is only five feet from the bunker out there," he said. "I couldn't believe it was out." Only a hitter with his strength could have got there in the first place, proving for the millionth time that power alone does not always bring glory.

Another to tangle with fate and end up with a bloodied nose was Peter Baker. Missing a putt on the 5th hole, his 14th, he tossed his putter at his bag and bent the shaft. The playing characteristics of the club had changed, so he could no longer use it, and he had to improvise with his sand-wedge and three-iron. A 74 put him out of contention.

Langer, meanwhile, had a start that was as good as Daly's was bad, with birdies on five of the first six holes. He holed putts from 15 feet and 25 feet on the first two, and after settling for par on the 3rd, picked up further shots on the 5th, 6th and 7th.

He had played only a third of his round but was already ten under par and drawing away; a sixth birdie on the 17th made it 11. Spence and the rest will have their work cut out.

IN BRIEF

Richardson completes tall order to reach final

ON THURSDAY Jeremy Bates was talking about the new boys taking over his role as backbone of the British tennis corps. Yesterday they got their chance as Paul Hand and Andrew Richardson reached the semi-finals of the Beckenham Open tennis tournament, Richardson beating the No 2 seed, Patrick Rafter, and Hand putting out Lan Bale, from South Africa. The victories set up the possibility of an all British final, something of a rarity.

Standing 6ft 7in, Richardson had the reach to overcome the vast difference in world ranking between himself and his Australian opponent. Now coached by Peter Fleming, Richardson is still grafting away in the lower reaches at 455 while the man Australia is hoping is the new Pat Cash, enjoys life ranked at No 38. No matter: yesterday it took a little over an hour for Richardson to win 7-5, 6-4.

Up against Bale, who beat the No 1 seed, Jason Stoltenberg, in the first round, Hand worked his way past the South African 6-3, 6-4. He now plays Petr Korda, who beat Jeremy Bates 6-4, 6-3.

French lead

Equestrianism: Didier Willefert, a French army officer who started competing only six years ago, has taken the lead at the end of the dressage phase of the Toyota Bramham International three-day event after a near-perfect effort on his 11-year-old gelding, Seducteur Biolay.

William Fox-Pitt, of Britain, is in second place, only two points behind, on his new ride, the eight-year-old Cosmopolitan. Paddy Muir, also trained by Bartle, lies in third place on her home-bred Archie Brown.

Lull before storm

Yachting: Thierry Pepponet, the French yachtsman, won the Vauxhall Lymington Cup match-race championship yesterday after a five-race duel against Jesper Bank, of Denmark, ended with a collision in the final heat. Bank won the first and third runs and might well have clinched the title in the fourth race had not the wind — which caused a postponement — not deserted him during the closing stages, which allowed Pepponet to sail clear.

Palmera again

Polo: Sheikh Alhamrani's polo quartet, Palmera, registered another victory at Smith's Lawn yesterday when they took on John Seabrook's Lambourne in the qualifying phase of the tournament for the Royal Windsor Cup, and beat them by eight goals to five.

Muster ready to claim clay-court crown

From Stuart Jones
tennis correspondent
in Paris

OFFICIAL recognition as the world's prime clay-court player awaits Thomas Muster. He has already gained the unanimous respect of his peers and, providing he does not submit to tennis's version of the Chinese water torture when he meets Michael Chang tomorrow afternoon, he will be the French Open champion.

Intimidating for his powerful aggression, he has built an aura of invincibility around his muscular frame. In dismissing Yevgeny Kafelnikov, who had stretched Andre Agassi, the top seed, beyond the limit in the quarter-final, he extended his sequence of victories on his favourite surface to 34.

Only two other men in the open era have established a more prolonged dominance on clay and they were both crowned here. Guillermo Vilas began his unbeaten sequence of 53 matches when he won here in 1977 and Bjorn Borg embarked on his undefeated run of 44 matches two years later on his way to the second of four successive titles.

Chang's efficiency, which has a numbing effect on opponents and spectators alike, was too much for Sergi Bruguera, the holder, to endure. After being worn down over 2½ hours, he was asked to forecast the outcome of the final. His reply was dramatically terse: "Muster in three."

Kafelnikov offered a revealing insight into the dreaded experience of taking on the 27-year-old Austrian. "It is like being in a Rocky movie when you go into the small ring with him," the bright 21-year-old Russian said. "You feel like a small moth against a big elephant."

Muster: intimidating

Mentally beaten before he started, his burgeoning talent was splattered all over the centre court throughout a one-sided contest lasting a mere 82 minutes. Muster, winning points even when the strings of his racket had broken, bustled through to his first grand slam final, 6-4, 6-0, 6-4.

Whatever Kefelnikov's tactics, staying initially behind the baseline or advancing to the net, they failed. "I tried my normal game in the beginning and that didn't go too well," as he put it. "I then tried something else and that didn't go too well either. He's like a wall. He's unbeatable."

In 1989, the same year Chang became the French champion at the age of 17, Muster's left knee was damaged — irreparably, it was feared at the time — by a drunken driver. His limb and career rebuilt through an exhaustive fitness regime, he reviews the incident philosophically. "Maybe someone made me suffer and is paying me back on Sunday."

Whereas he has developed a faith in his own ability, Chang believes in God to whom he constantly refers. The patience of Job is required to play against him and to watch him. In the time Muster had qualified for the final, he and Bruguera were still negotiating the second set.

The ensuing tie-break alone, which Bruguera conceded 7-5, took nine minutes to complete and ten of the dozen points were lost rather than won. Chang, with his industrious retrieving, induces first errors and then a sense of heavy fatigue. His opponents grow weary, the crowd drowsy.

Towards the end of the third set, Bruguera, unbeaten in his 19 previous matches at Roland Garros, could take no more. Although he broke Chang to lead 5-4, he immediately relinquished his advantage and made seven successive mistakes to yield the tie-break to love and go out 6-4, 7-6, 7-6.

Novice on track to become Kenya's greatest

David Powell, athletics correspondent, finds Kiptanui full of praise for a young runner he has under his wing

MOSES KIPTANUI and Daniel Komen were as impressive off the track yesterday as they had been on it the night before.

Kiptanui could have been forgiven had he struck a congratulatory note after a 5,000 metres world record here in Rome on Thursday but he was modesty itself. Komen, the sport's new African prodigy, mainly sat and listened to Kiptanui's carefuly constructed opinions.

Komen, 19, and a tactical novice, according to Kiptanui, seems destined to become one of Kenya's greatest athletes, perhaps the greatest. Once his faults have been corrected, he will break 12min 50sec for 5,000 metres. Who says so? Kiptanui. The question is now whether he will set senior world records and win world titles, but how many will he add to his junior collection?

Even before Thursday, he had beaten John Ngugi's altitude record for 5,000 metres. Only in the finish straight did Kiptanui deny Komen the outright world record, clocking 12min 55.30sec, to his pupil's 12:56.15, a junior world record.

Thus, Haile Gebresilasie, who had given Komen a sleepless night earlier in the week, was relieved of his record of 12:56.96. On Monday, Gebresilasie had broken the 10,000 metres world mark and Komen, sharing a room with Kiptanui in Moscow, was disturbed by the Ethiopean's nine seconds improvement on the former mark.

"He did not sleep," Kiptanui recalled. "He kept asking me: 'How am I going to break this record?'"

He will need no reassuring now. Kiptanui spoke of Gebresilasie's record 26min 43.53sec coming down to 26:35 and included Komen among those who might accomplish it. But for Komen's front-running, the record would not have fallen.

"He did 90 per cent of the work; he sacrificed himself for the world record," Kiptanui said. Kiptanui's gratitude was not confined to Komen's work on the night. They started training together this year and the benefits have been mutual. Kiptanui advised Komen to change his style. "Arms higher, shorten your stride," the army corporal told his sapper. The next instruction is to learn to follow, rather than always lead.

Komen won the junior 5,000 and 10,000 metre titles from the front. Kiptanui wants him to watch videos of his races to correct his mistakes. The Commonwealth Games 10,000 metres is Komen's horror show: he ran the first lap in 57 seconds, reached 1500 metres in 3min 40sec, but finished ninth. He was at a loss to explain his early laps. I tried to slow down but my legs were in momentum," he said.

Kiptanui's sense of propriety dictates that, even after five world records and two steeplechase world titles, he expects no selection favours for the world championships, but to have to qualify by finishing in the top three of the Kenyan trials.

"It is not a right," he said. "I do not want to upset the third person."

FOR THE RECORD

ATHLETICS

ROME: Golden Gala grand prix meeting: Selected results: Men: 100m: Race one: 1, D Ezinwa (Nigeria) 10.10sec, 2, L Christie (GB) 10.15, 7, J Regis (GB) 10.48. Race two: 1, D Mitchell (US) 10.16. 200m: 1, F Fredericks (Nam) 20.42; 3, L Christie (GB) 20.53, 6, J Regis (GB) 20.77. 800m: Race one: 1, A Giocondi (It) 1min 44.85sec. Race two: 1, G D'Urso (It) 1:46.18, 5, C Winrow (GB) 1:48.25. 2,000m: 1, V Niyongabo (Burundi) 4:54.02. 5,000m: 1, M Kiptanui (Ken) 12:55.30 (world record). 5, J Nuttall (GB) 13:17.25. 110m hurdles: 1, C Jackson (GB) 13.18, 6, P Gray (GB) 13.87. 400m hurdles: 1, S Matete (Zam) 48.40. 3,000m steeplechase: 1, R Kosgei (Ken) 8:07.47. Pole vault: 1, S Bubka (Ukr) 5.90m. Javelin: 1, R Hecht (Ger) 85.26m. Shot: 1, A Klimenko (Ukr) 20.06m. Women: 200m: 1, M Ottey (Jam) 22.29. 400m hurdles: 1, D Hemmings (Jam) 54.20. 3,000m: 1, O Churbanova (Russ) 8:41.42. High jump: 1, G Astafei (Rom) 2.00m. Long jump: 1, F May (It) 6.74m. Triple Jump: 1, I Prandzheva (Bul) 14.51m. Shot: 1, A Kumbernuss (Ger) 20.08m

IZHEVSK, Russia: 10km walk (road): L Ramazanova (Russ) 41min 29.00 sec (world best)

BASEBALL

AMERICAN LEAGUE: Baltimore 8 Seattle 2; California 10 Boston 8; Oakland 8 New York 3. Minnesota 9 Detroit 2. Cleveland 8 Milwaukee 7; Texas 10 Kansas City 9

NATIONAL LEAGUE: New York 9 San Francisco 6. Florida 7 Pittsburgh 3. Colorado 5 Chicago 3. Cincinnati 6 Houston 3.

BOWLS

STOKE MANDEVILLE: British Wheelchair Sports Foundation National Games: Men's singles: Semi-finals: R Farrath (Eng) bt K Bridgeman (Wales) 21-19, B Bagnall (N Ire) bt B Behan (Eng) 21-6. Women's pairs: Semi-finals: P Tyler (Eng) and A Bayle (Ire) bt T Barker (Eng) and J Guild (Eng) 17-11, M Finch (Eng) and J Dean (Eng) bt V Allen (Eng) and S Sommer (Eng) 16-13. Tetraplegic singles: Semi-finals: G Stokes (Wales) bt C Ritchie (Eng) 21-1, N Smith (Wal) bt K Ellison (Eng) 21-8

CRICKET

THE PARKS (three-day match): MCC 167 and 380-9 dec (A M Brown 114, P Heseltine 64 not out, D P Hughes 52). Oxford University 342-9 dec. Match drawn.

CYCLING

GAP, France: Critérium du Dauphiné: Fifth stage (198km, Avignon-Gap): 1, G Talmant (Fr) 5hr 54sec; 2, J-C Robin (Fr) 3, R Gonzales-Arrieta (Sp) both same time, 4, F Jeker (Switz) at 6sec. 5, F Casartelli (It) at 1min 15sec. 6, M Milesi (It) same time. 10, C Boardman (GB) same time. Leading overall positions: 1, M Indurain (Sp) 20hr 32min 39sec; 2, Boardman at 2:21; 3, V Aparicio (Sp) 3:39. 4, R Virenque (Fr) 3:54. 5, A Mejia (Col) 3:57. 6, Robin 4:06

EQUESTRIANISM

BRAMHAM: Toyota Bramham three-day event: Leading positions (after dressage): 1, Seducteur Biolay (D Willefert, Fr) 39.4pts; 2, Cosmopolitan II (W Fox-Pitt, GB) 42.4. 3, Archie Brown (P Muir, GB) 47.2

FOOTBALL

UMBRO CUP: England 3 Sweden 3 (at Elland Road)

TOULON: Under-21 tournament: England 2 Malaysia 0; Brazil 1 Angola 0; Slovenia 2 Lithuania 1

WOMEN'S WORLD CUP (in Sweden): Group B: Norway 2 England 0 (in Karlstad). Nigeria 3 Canada 3 (in Helsingborg). Group C: United States 2 Denmark 0 (in Gavle). China 4 Australia 2 (in Vasteras)

GOLF

ROYAL LIVERPOOL CLUB, Hoylake: Amateur Championship: Quarter-finals: M Reynard (Moseley) bt M Searle (Lyme Regis) 3 and 2, J Fanagan (Milltown) bt M Wheelhouse (NZ) 2 and 1, R Beames (Wick) bt L James (Broadstone) 1 hole, G Sherry (Kilmarnock Barassie) bt D Howell (Broome Manor) 1 hole. Semi-finals: Sherry bt Beames 4 and 2. Reynard bt Fanagan 1 hole

HAMBURG: Deutsche Bank Open: Leading second-round scores (GB and Ire unless stated): 133: B Langer (Ger) 67, 66. 137: J Spence 68, 69. 138: C Rocca (It) 68, 70; S Torrance 71, 67. 139: S Struver (Ger) 70, 69, M Campbell (NZ) 71, 68, S Ames (Trin) 70, 69, M Litton 71, 68. 140: I Garrido (Sp) 69, 71; J Sandelin (Swe) 71, 69. 141: S McAllister 73, 68, M Mouland 74, 67. D Clarke 73, 68, C Montgomerie 72, 69; M McLean 70, 71, M Mackenzie 73, 68. 142: F Lindgren (Swe) 71, 71, P Moloney (Aus) 71, 71, P Simpson 72, 70, J Spencer 73, 69; R Drummond 71, 71. 143: P Baker 69, 74, J Van de Velde (Fr) 73, 70. P Mitchell 71, 72, W Riley (Aus) 73, 70, M Lanner (Swe) 69, 74. R Wessels (SA) 73, 70, P Teravainen (US) 73, 70; S Dodd 73, 70, O Sellberg (Swe) 71, 72; R Claydon 71, 72. 144: A Sherborne 71, 73; M Archer 74, 70; D J Russell 71, 73, P O'Malley (Aus) 72, 72; G Orr 70, 74, P Affleck 75, 69, A Lebouc (Fr) 71, 73, R Chapman 73, 71.

POTOMAC, Maryland: Kemper Open (United States unless stated): Leading first-round scores: 65: V Singh (Fiji) 31, 34, R Gamez 31, 34. 66: J Maggert 35, 31, M O'Meara 34, 32, S Lowery 32, 34, W Grady (Aus) 34, 32. 67: L Mize 35, 32; M Dawson 33, 34. P Blackmar 34, 33; J Parnevik (Swe) 34, 33; K Gibson 32, 35, A Magee 34, 33. T Kite 33, 34.

EVIAN, France: Women's Evian Masters: Leading third-round scores (GB or Ire unless stated): 204: L Davies 68, 67, 69. 207: C Nilsmark (Swe) 68, 69, 70. 208: A Sorenstam (Swe) 68, 72, 68. 209: A Nicholas 71, 66, 72. 210: C Dibnah (Aus) 70, 70, 70. 211: P Johnson 68, 71, 72. 212: M Lunn (Aus) 70, 72, 70; H Wadsworth 67, 72, 73. 213: C Hjalmarsson (Swe) 70, 72, 71; L Fairclough 71, 72, 70, L Hackney 68, 72, 73.

ICE HOCKEY

NATIONAL LEAGUE (NHL): Stanley Cup play-offs: Western Conference finals: Chicago 5 Detroit 2 (Detroit lead best-of-seven series 3-1)

MOTOR CYCLING

ISLE OF MAN: Senior TT race (six laps, 226.38m, GB unless stated): 1, J Dunlop, Honda, 1hr 54min 1.9sec (119.11mph), 2, I Duffus, Ducati, 1:54:35.4, 3, S Ward, Honda, 1:54:51.7, 4, N Jefferies, Honda, 1:54:54.4. 5, D Goodley, Kawasaki, 1:56:10.7. 6, B Jackson, Kawasaki, 1:57:05.1.

RUGBY LEAGUE

International match

New Zealand 22 France 6

New Zealand: Tries: Ngamu (2), Hoppe, Blackmore. Goals: Halligan (2), Ridge. France: Try: Cabestany. Goal: Millet (in Auckland).

WINFIELD CUP: Sydney Bulldogs 22, Sydney City Roosters 14

SQUASH

NEW YORK: Tournament of Champions: Semi-finals: Jansher Khan (Pak) bt B Martin (Aus) 17-16, 15-1, 15-13, R Eyles (Aus) bt P Nicol (Scot) 15-12, 17-15, 1-15, 15-13. Final: Jansher bt Eyles 15-5, 15-8, 15-10

TENNIS

PARIS: French Open: Men's singles: Semi-finals: T Muster (Austria) bt Y Kafelnikov (Russ) 6-4, 6-0, 6-4, M Chang (US) bt S Bruguera (Sp) 6-4, 7-6, 7-6. Men's doubles: Semi-final: J Eltingh (Holl) and P Haarhuis (Holl) bt T Ho (US) and B Steven (NZ) 6-3 6-0. Women's doubles: Semi-finals: G Fernandez (US) and N Zvereva (Belo) bt P Fendick (US) and M J Fernandez (US) 6-2, 6-1, J Novotna (Cz) and A Sánchez Vicario (Sp) bt N Arendt (US) and L Davenport (US) 6-2, 7-5.

BECKENHAM: Open tournament: Men's singles: Quarter-finals: P Hand (GB) bt L Bale (SA) 6-3, 6-4, J Frana (Arg) bt S Stolle (Aus) 7-5, 6-3. P Korda (Cz) bt J Bates (GB) 6-4, 6-3. A Richardson (GB) bt P Rafter (Aus) 7-5, 6-4. Women's singles: Semi-finals: E Callens (Bel) bt T Krizan (Slovakia) 6-1, 6-3. R Fairbank-Nideffer (SA) bt K-A Guse (Aus) 6-3, 6-3.

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SIMON BARNES 38

CHINESE PUZZLE
KEEPS SWIMMING
WORLD GUESSING

SPORT

SATURDAY JUNE 10 1995

TENNIS 43

MUSTER STAKES
HIS CLAIM FOR
CLAY-COURT CROWN

MARC ASPLAND

Lara's innings ends with an ungainly heave at a ball from Illingworth, Hick going full stretch at slip to hold the catch. The West Indian left-hander had made 53

First-session failings give West Indies whip hand at Headingley

England surrender initiative

By Alan Lee
Cricket Correspondent

HEADINGLEY (second day of five): West Indies, with five first-innings wickets in hand, are 37 runs ahead of England

EVEN Raymond Illingworth, who has never been much good at delegating, is having to accept that there are some things he cannot do for his team. Both as selector and manager, Illingworth has spent this week emphasising that England must avoid starting yet-another series at their lowest ebb, but in two hours yesterday morning the players showed that it takes more than fine words and firm intentions to cure their compulsion.

It took only this single session to undermine the weeks of planning, the days of anticipation, and the hours of patient labour put in by Michael Atherton, the England captain, on Thursday. A sequence of aberrations by the batsmen was followed by half an hour of witless bowling. It was cricket of crass indiscipline, and it handed control of this first Cornhill Test match to West Indies.

When a cricket team has had its inheritance pilfered, which equates to how the West Indians felt after losing to Australia, self-esteem is inevitably low. England's priority was to ensure that it remained that way, not to nurse the patient back to health and confidence with a generous donation of wickets and runs.

England did claw back a little ground in the final session, when their bowling responded to need rather than adrenalin, but by then Darren Gough was inactive, a back strain having sent him from the field after three profligate overs in the phase of the game when the damage to his team, it may transpire, was irreparably done.

To feel comfortable, England had needed a total of 300, and at start of play it remained feasible, despite the loss of two important wickets in the closing minutes of a weather-beaten first day. What they needed was a session of consolidation, batting of care and attention. What they did not need was to lose their two remaining specialist batsmen to strokes more appropriate to a Sunday slog.

Mark Ramprakash has never previously commanded the automatic Test place that was his for this game but, for all his evident talent, it was earned on slim evidence, and might prove a transient privilege. He was not alone in getting out to the cut stroke — Smith and Hick fell similarly on the first day — but both the ball, which was too straight, and the circumstances, too precarious, should have discouraged him from playing it in Ian Bishop's first full over of the day.

Alec Stewart's dismissal took still more explaining. He wafted loosely across a straight ball from Bishop, aiming towards mid-wicket and succeeding only in edging to second slip. England suddenly had their extended tail exposed, and the demeanour of the touring team was visibly uplifted.

For the 20,000 Yorkshiremen in the ground, hope sprang eternal with the entrance of Gough. The billboards for the *Yorkshire Post* had proclaimed: "England rely on Gough batting", and a banner, drooping from a balcony outside the ground, urged: "Go Get 'Em Goughie". They cheered him all the way to the middle, and they roared their approval as he hooked his first ball from Bishop with immense bravado. But the acclaim stuck in their throats as Ambrose made ground to his left at fine leg and plucked the ball out of the air. Gough out first ball, day ruined for half the crowd. But for Bishop, who had now taken five for five in 18 balls, it was the return to Test cricket he can have imagined only in his dreams.

When Peter Martin proffered a neurotic village-green mow to give Ambrose his first international wicket of the tour, England had plunged to 157 for eight. Six wickets had fallen for 15 runs, as dire a decline as any in the litany of recent years. DeFreitas and Richard Illingworth did their best to salvage the ship, putting on 42 for the ninth wicket, but Kenny Benjamin clinically closed the innings and, to their great surprise and relief, West Indies were batting 35 minutes before lunch.

The seventh wicket of this remarkable session fell instantly. Devon Malcolm's first ball demanded a stroke from Hooper and climbed enough to take the edge. Thorpe, at first slip, circled triumphantly with the catch, and we all wondered whether there would be much of this match left by teatime.

It is not Brian Lara's way to acknowledge situations in which mere mortals are cowed. By the end of the opening over he had expansively carved two fours to third man, and when he first faced Gough, he drilled an exquisite straight drive to the pavilion. Malcolm was withdrawn with the startling figures of 2-0-24-1, and Gough took his leave to spend a painful afternoon on the treatment table.

England will feel that the fates now mocked them, for the weather improved with every hour and, by the evening session, West Indies were batting under clear blue skies. Lara reached 50 from 40 balls with a series of strokes identified early and played impossibly late, before letting himself down with a head-up submission in Illingworth's second over.

Illingworth bowled an 18-over spell capably, slowing the scoring rate without resorting to negative line and fields. But it needed a run-out, secured by a direct hit from DeFreitas at mid-off, to remove Sherwin Campbell for a lively 69, and it was a long time after that before England broke through again. West Indies, indeed, were in front when Jimmy Adams's composed innings ended with a top-edged sweep against Hick, and although Richardson's disorientation continued with a woeful stroke to give Martin his first Test wicket, these were no better than consolation points for a chastened England.

HEADINGLEY SCOREBOARD

West Indies won toss

ENGLAND: First Innings
R A Smith c Richardson b Benjamin 16
(69min, 48 balls, 1 four)
*M A Atherton c Murray b Bishop 81
(214min, 145 balls, 8fours)
G A Hick c Campbell b Benjamin 18
(35min, 24 balls, 4 fours)
G P Thorpe lbw b Bishop 20
(101min, 68 balls, 3 fours)
†A J Stewart c Hooper b Bishop . 2
(30min, 17 balls)
M R Ramprakash c Campbell b Bishop 4
(12min, 10 balls)
P A J DeFreitas c Murray b Benjamin 23
(57min, 27 balls, 4 fours)
D Gough c Ambrose b Bishop 0
(1min, 1 ball)
†P J Martin c Murray b Ambrose . 2
(6min, 5 balls)
R K Illingworth not out 17
(42min, 28 balls, 1 four)
D E Malcolm b Benjamin 0
(3min, 4 balls)
Extras (b 1, nb 15) 16
Total (59.5 overs, 289min) 199

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-52 (Atherton 31), 2-91 (Atherton 49), 3-142 (Atherton 77), 4-148 (Stewart 1), 5-153 (Stewart 1), 6-154 (DeFreitas 0), 7-154 (DeFreitas 0), 8-157 (DeFreitas 1), 9-199 (Illingworth 17).

BOWLING: Ambrose 17-4-56-1 (nb 8; 7-3-12-0, 5-0-16-0, 5-1-28-1); Walsh 13-2-50-0 (nb 2; 4-1-13-0, 8-1-33-0, 1-0-4-0); Bishop 16-2-32-5 (nb 2; 2-0-8-0, 14-2-24-5); Benjamin 13.5-2-60-4 (nb 6; 9-1-47-2, 3-1-10-0, 1.5-0-3-2).

WEST INDIES: First Innings
C L Hooper c Thorpe b Malcolm . 0
(0min, 1 ball)
S L Campbell run out (DeFreitas) 69
(132min, 101 balls, 9 fours)
B C Lara c Hick b Illingworth 53
(71min, 55 balls, 10 fours)
J C Adams c Martin b Hick 58
(155min, 109 balls, 10 fours)
K L T Arthurton not out 36
(150min, 121 balls, 5 fours)
*R B Richardson lbw b Martin 0
(13min, 7 balls)
†J R Murray not out 14
(41min, 32 balls, 1 four)
Extras (lb 6) 6
Total (5 wkts, 71 overs, 283min) 236

I R Bishop, C E L Ambrose, C A Walsh and K C G Benjamin to bat.

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-0 (Campbell 0), 2-95 (Campbell 42), 3-141 (Adams 13), 4-216 (Arthurton 30), 5-219 (Arthurton 33).

BOWLING: Malcolm 7-0-48-1 (2-0-24-1, 3-0-18-0, 2-0-6-1); Gough 3-0-23-0 (one spell); DeFreitas 15-0-59-0 (7-0-34-0, 6-0-22-0, 2-0-3-0); Martin 18-4-35-1 (4-0-13-0, 6-0-13-0, 8-4-9-1); Illingworth 24-9-50-1 (18-4-43-1, 6-5-7-0); 4-0-15-1 (one spell).

Umpires: H D Bird and S Venkataraghavan.

TV replay umpire: P Willey.

Match referee: J R Reid (New Zealand).
Match adjudicator: D Lloyd.

MATCHES TO COME: June 22: Lord's. July 6: Edgbaston. July 27: Old Trafford. August 10: Trent Bridge. August 24: The Oval.

☐ *Compiled by Bill Frindall*

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Northants win 37

Cup progress a tall order for Bayfield

Rob Andrew identifies the areas England must exploit if they are to beat the Australians tomorrow

England have not waited for four years to take part in the World Cup only to lose in the quarter-finals — and I know the Australians feel the same. You can sense the urgency about the England players, in team meetings, in training.

Australia won the World Cup in 1991 but their hunger for success will not have gone and it would be a huge disappointment to them, and their public, were they to find themselves on the flight home after tomorrow's match in Cape Town.

People have talked about revenge and perhaps, if this were the final, there would be a parallel. But it isn't. If we win the next match will be against either New Zealand or Scotland, and we have to look towards that and beyond. Nor were many of our side involved in the 1991 final, particularly the forwards.

But if we are to win it must be done up front, and specifically at the lineout. There are two significant factors there: the number of throw-ins we offer them and whether we can disrupt their jumpers in the same way that South Africa did in the opening match of the tournament.

If Australia win too much clean possession their ball-retention skills are good and they will launch waves of attacks, of the kind that earned tries against South Africa for Michael Lynagh and Phil Kearns. Obviously they will win a proportion of their own throws, but if the link between Lynagh and his forwards can be broken, we will have achieved much.

When our own game is in gear we are good at winning first-phase ball, launching attacks and re-cycling ball and, we hope, creating space for our strike players. Nor do Australia know our players in the same way that they did in 1991; they will have looked at videos but that is different from actually playing against the likes of Tim Rodber, Ben Clarke and Victor Ubogu.

Or of playing against Martin Bayfield. Prior to 1991 we seemed to have been playing against Australia every other year and when they beat us soundly in Sydney in the summer of '91, Bayfield was young and inexperienced. Now he is just about the finished article and around him is a younger pack which might have an edge on an Australian eight much the same as in the 1991 final, but four years older.

By a quirk of fixtures we have played several times over the last four years against South Africa and New Zealand, on their patch and on ours. We have beaten them, too, whereas Australia have gone on their way, establishing something of an aura of invincibility.

We respect Australia as one of the world's best sides, but we have proved that, on the day, we can live with anyone. Nor are they the exceptional side of 1991, which was made complete by two players: Nick Farr-Jones and Simon Poidevin. You don't replace that sort of ability easily. Farr-Jones was in a class of his own at scrum half and Poidevin was such a strong player on the flank, a natural leader who allowed others to get on with their game.

We have our own natural leader among the forwards in Dean Richards. I wonder if the Australians are still looking for theirs and whether George Gregan can play to the required level. He is a talented player, but he is inexperienced and he is not Farr-Jones. The area of back row and scrum half may be one we can exploit.

We don't want to be going home just yet.

☐ *Interview by David Hands*

TODAY
France v Ireland ....
(Durban, 12.10, ITV live)
South Africa v Western Samoa ....
(Johannesburg, 2.30, ITV live)
TOMORROW
England v Australia ....
(Cape Town, 12.0, ITV live)
New Zealand v Scotland ....
(Pretoria, 2.30, ITV live)

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Schumacher gets timing right in qualifying

From Oliver Holt
in Montreal

THE drivers left it late before they burst out into the sun on the Ile Notre Dame yesterday. The track stayed eerily silent while they played their waiting game, estimating the best possible time to make their qualifying runs. Michael Schumacher emerged last of all in his Benetton-Renault and laughed longest.

He watched from his garage as first Jean Alesi, in a Ferrari, and then Damon Hill, in a Williams-Renault, set the quickest times on the harp-shaped track in the middle of the St Lawrence Seaway. Then, when it seemed there was hardly time for him to drive his allotted number of laps, he strapped on his helmet and roared away.

Schumacher is flying at the moment, confidence coursing through him after back-to-back wins in Spain and Monaco in the last two races. After the uncertainty and tension of the early part of the season, when he seemed uncharacteristically vulnerable, he now appears more relaxed and assured than ever.

After a twitch on his first quick lap and an altercation with a slower car on the next one, which momentarily ruined his chances of a competitive time, the world champion carved more than half a second off Hill's time and then extended his advantage on the next lap. It was an impressive display of his current superiority.

Hill saved his best effort until last, but was still left nearly 0.4sec behind the German, who leads the world championship by five points and is the hot favourite to win tomorrow's 69-lap race on the Circuit Gilles Villeneuve. Gerhard Berger, in a Ferrari, was third-quickest yesterday. Alesi was fourth.

Hill and his team-mate, David Coulthard, who was fifth-quickest, were both optimistic that they could improve their times in the second qualifying session today, but rain is forecast so that particular luxury may not be afforded them. In any case, Schumacher appears so dominant that it seems more likely he will extend his lead rather than see it pegged back.

"I am not too disappointed with the time," Hill said. "Obviously, it would have been nice to be pole position, but it is very important to be on the provisional front row, because of the threat of rain here tomorrow. I am also being troubled by a cold, which I think is a product of the air conditioning in our hotel." Apart from Schumacher's bravura performance, it was also a day when another German heaped credit on himself, although this time it was off the track. Formula One is a notoriously fickle business with contracts apparently being agreed and broken in the blink of an eye. Heinz-Harald Frentzen, a team-mate of Schumacher's in their sports car days, bucked the trend yesterday.

He is not having the happiest of times with Sauber-Ford this year, despite his burgeoning reputation as one of the hottest properties in the sport, mainly due to the normal teething troubles in the new partnership between engine manufacturer and team. Yet he still managed to rebuff an attempt by McLaren-Mercedes to lure him away.

McLaren apparently wanted Frentzen to replace Mark Blundell after the Canadian Grand Prix to fill the yawning gap left by the premature departure of Nigel Mansell before the Monaco Grand Prix. Frentzen is a Mercedes darling and much-admired by other top teams in Formula One, including Wiliams, but the 28-year-old German made it clear yesterday that he would not be moving, although he admitted that one can never say never in grand prix racing.

"I believe there was an approach by McLaren," Frentzen said, "but I have a contract with Sauber for the rest of the season and I want to repay the faith that the team showed in me by bringing me into Formula One in the first place. If McLaren want to talk to me about next season, then obviously that is a different matter. In any case, I am not sure that Sauber or Ford would let me go even if I wanted to this season."

MONTREAL DETAILS

LEADING QUALIFYING TIMES: 1, M Schumacher (Ger) Benetton, 1min 27.661sec; 2, D Hill (GB) Williams, 1.28.039; 3, G Berger (Austria) Ferrari, 1.28.247; 4, J Alesi (Fr) Ferrari, 1.28.525; 5, D Coulthard (GB) Williams, 1.28.590; 6, E Irvine (GB) Jordan, 1.29.021; 7, J Herbert (GB) Benetton, 1.29.295; 8, R Barrichello (Bra) Jordan, 1.29.393; 9, M Hakkinen (Fin) McLaren, 1.29.408; 10, O Panis (Fr) Ligier, 1.29.809.

CHAMPIONSHIP STANDINGS: Drivers: 1, Schumacher 34pts; 2, Hill 29; 3, Berger 17; 4, Alesi 14; 5, Herbert 12; 6, Coulthard 9; 7, Hakkinen 5; 8, H-H Frentzen (Ger) 4; 9, M Blundell (GB) 3; 10, Irvine 2; 11, Panis 1. Constructors: 1, Benetton 36pts; 2, Williams 32; 3, Ferrari 31; 4, McLaren 8; 5, Sauber 4; 6, Jordan 2; 7, Ligier 1.

☐ *Benetton deducted ten points and Williams six points for fuel irregularities*

GRANDS PRIX TO COME: July 2: French, Magny Cours; July 16: British, Silverstone; July 30: German, Hockenheim; Aug 13: Hungarian, Budapest; Aug 27: Belgian, Spa-Francorchamps; Sep 10: Italian, Monza; Sep 24: Portuguese, Estoril; Oct 6: European, Nürburgring; Oct 22: Pacific, Aida, Japan; Oct 29: Japanese, Suzuka; Nov 12: Australian, Adelaide.

You know what Campo said about Carling? Bull.
(Will's men to win by 6-10pts: 6/1.)

AUSTRALIA v ENGLAND
Cape Town. Kick off 12.00 pm tomorrow. Live on ITV.
10/11 AUSTRALIA 10/11 ENGLAND (+4pts.) 14/1 TIE
Forecast the score with England receiving a 4 point start.

First Tryscorer			Winning Points Margin
8/1	D. Campese	4/1	Australia win by 1-5 points
10/1	D. Smith	7/2	Australia win by 6-10 points
10/1	R. Underwood	11/2	Australia win by 11-15 points
10/1	T. Underwood	12/1	Australia win by 16-20 points
14/1	J. Guscott	4/1	England win by 1-5 points
14/1	T. Horan	6/1	England win by 6-10 points
14/1	J. Little	12/1	England win by 11-15 points
16/1	W. Carling	25/1	England win by 16-20 points

NEW ZEALAND v SCOTLAND
Pretoria. Kick off 2.30 pm tomorrow. Live on ITV.
10/11 NEW ZEALAND 10/11 SCOTLAND (+18pts.) 14/1 TIE
Forecast the score with Scotland receiving an 18 point start.

First Tryscorer			Winning Points Margin
7/1	M. Ellis	8/1	N Zealand win by 1-5 points
7/1	J. Lomu	8/1	N Zealand win by 6-10 points
10/1	F. Bunce	9/2	N Zealand win by 11-15 points
12/1	W. Little	4/1	N Zealand win by 16-20 points
12/1	J. Wilson	5/1	N Zealand win by 21-25 points
14/1	K. Logan	8/1	Scotland win by 1-5 points
16/1	G. Hastings	16/1	Scotland win by 6-10 points
16/1	C. Joiner	33/1	Scotland win by 11-15 points

Others on request. Penalty trys do not count for first tryscorer betting.

TODAY'S HANDICAP BETTING
8/11 S. AFRICA 11/10 W. SAMOA(+20pts.) 14/1 TIE
Forecast the score with W. Samoa receiving a 20 point start.
EVS. FRANCE 5/6 IRELAND(+14pts.) 14/1 TIE
Forecast the score with Ireland receiving a 14 point start.

For the latest prices on all this weekend's events including The Derby, page Teletext 605 6 7 (CH4) & 360 (Sky text).

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CAR 95

Another
chance
to win
a Rover
Tourer

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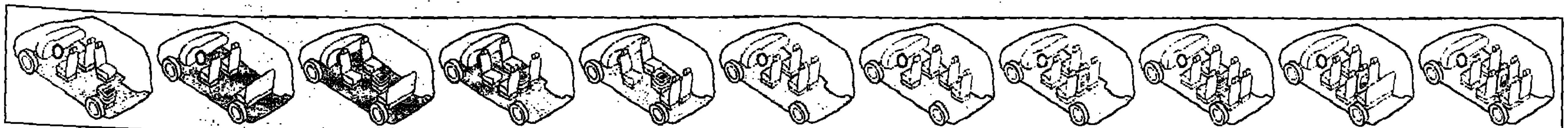
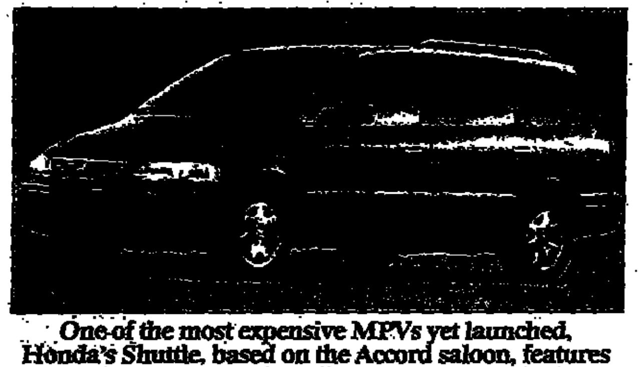
SATURDAY JUNE 10 1995



Forget about macho off-road vehicles — if you want to move your car seats around as easily as you shift your living room furniture, enter the age of the multi-purpose vehicle, says **Kevin Eason**

It's time to put wheels on your lifestyle



One of the most expensive MPVs yet launched, Honda's Shuttle, based on the Accord saloon, features a folding mechanism that allows the rear bench seat to be secreted neatly into the floor, leaving a wide, flat load area. Available only with automatic transmission

The Daihatsu Hijet, the first miniature MPV, provides six seats in an area shorter and slimmer than a Metro and at £7,995 it is more than £5,000 cheaper than its nearest rival, the Nissan Serena. If Noddy ever grew up and had children, he would drive them to school in this

Now I can reveal it: what every best-dressed motorist will be wearing this season. Throw away the keys to the estate and put the off-roader back in a field where it belongs: the new fashion on the streets will be the people-carrier.

Like designers parading the lastest frocks on the catwalk, carmakers are flinging hundreds of millions of pounds into their latest supermodels to convince motorists that their present transport is not chic and that they simply must change to something new.

If you are not convinced they mean business, look at the line-up of names waiting in the wings with models dressed and ready to drive into the spotlight. Ford, Volkswagen, Peugeot, Citroën, Fiat, Vauxhall and Chrysler all have people-carriers — or multi-purpose vehicles (MPVs) — on their way to Britain.

Not far behind will come models from Rover, Mercedes-Benz... and any other self-respecting manufacturer that wants a piece of the action. Honda is making one that costs £23,000 — almost the price of a decent Jaguar — and Daihatsu is sending one as big as a Metro and costing only £8,000.

People-carriers could have 5 per cent of all sales within five years — about 100,000 in Britain, twice as many as current sales of 4x4s. Ask Tom Pallister, Ford's marketing director, whether Britain will take to vehicles that stand as high as a van but drive as meekly as a car, and he claims the sky is the limit.

He says: "In 1982, American sales for these vehicles were only 12,000; last year they reached 1.4 million, which represents a growth of over 100 times in 12 years, and annual sales could top two million by the year 2000.

"We just don't know how many sales there could be in the United Kingdom but our experience in America suggests that the growth here could be huge."

It will need to be: Ford has joined forces with Volkswagen to produce a vehicle for both companies — the Ford Galaxy and the Volkswagen Sharan — at a factory in Portugal that can pour them out at the rate of 100,000 a year. An alliance between Peugeot, Citroën, Fiat and Lancia will be manufacturing at about the same rate. The Japanese will not be standing back, idly watching.

Unlike 4x4s, none of the MPVs will carry a Made in Britain sticker. The nearest we get is sharing the design on the Galaxy and providing a 2-litre engine from Ford's Dagenham plant in Essex.

But why swap your Solihull-built Land Rover Discovery for a Ford Galaxy anyway? Lifestyle, the Ford marketing men say. Apparently, nobody goes out for a drive in a car any more; no, you load up the vehicle that suits your "life needs".

In the beginning was the saloon, a simple box on four wheels with an engine at the front, the passengers in the middle and luggage at the back. The concept was good but everybody had to have one, even families, DIY men who wanted to load the contents of Do-it-All into the back and skiers whose long poles, balanced precariously from the back seat, poked the driver in the eye each time he turned around.

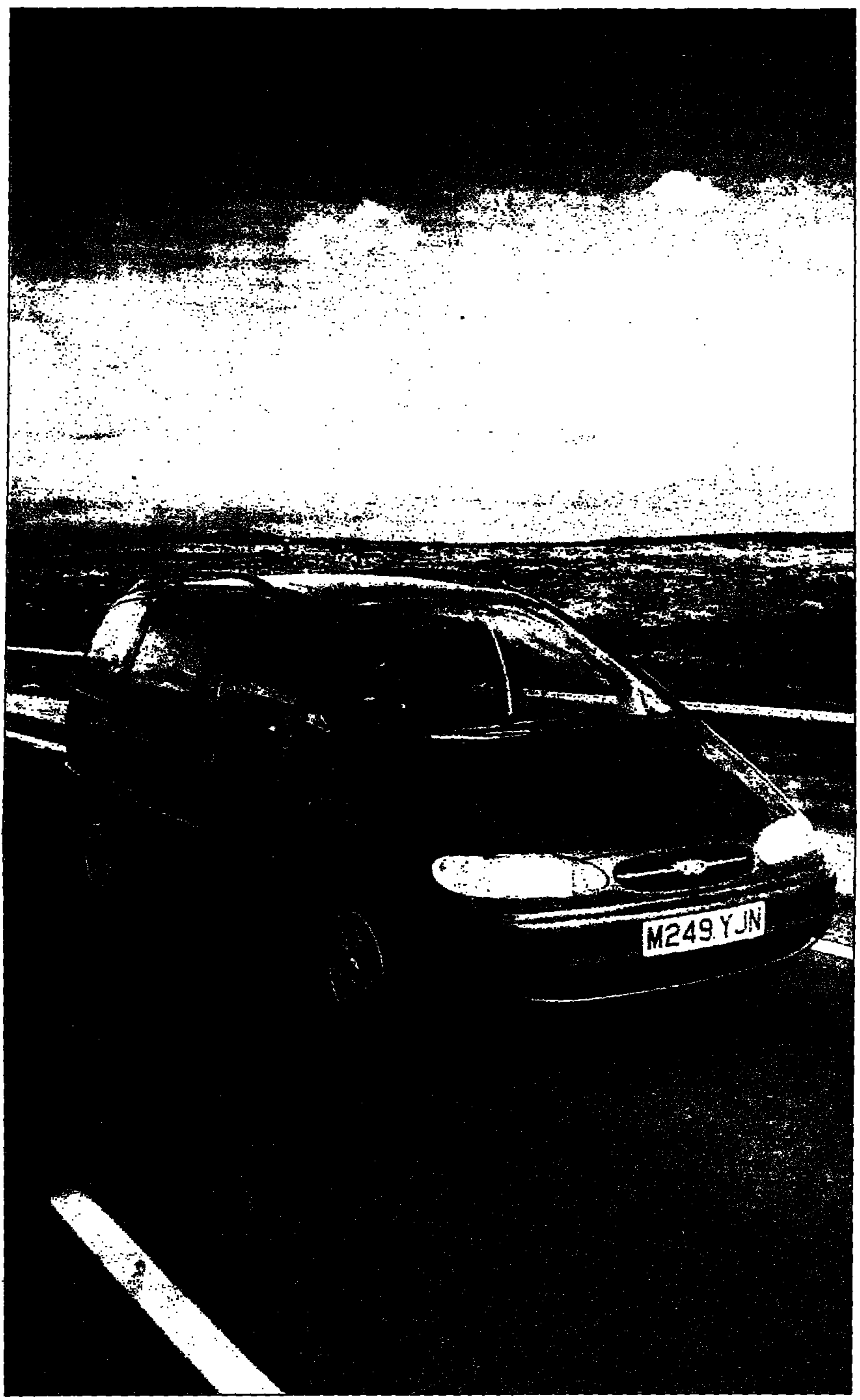
And so the estate was born, but generations of boxy Volvos garnered the image of fuddy-duddy family-movers with 2.3 children and stripped-pine furniture. Enter the off-roader... It was the ultimate fashion statement for the drivers who needed space but wanted to stick out from the crowd like a Des O' Connor fan at a Take That concert.

The marketing people say that the MPV is all those things to every driver: saloon, estate car and bulky load-carrier. Renault thought of it first, and ages ago, with the Espace, but the competition wants to move the concept on a stage further — like Ford with the new Galaxy, one of the first vehicles onto the catwalk from about July.

The Galaxy can carry seven people. But, surprisingly, it is only as long as a Mondeo and handles more like a car than some of its competitors, which are derived from vans.

Mr Pallister says: "All the feedback we got was that people liked the concept of a vehicle like this but were put off by the size. Women, particularly, liked the idea of sitting high up at the steering wheel but disliked having to climb in, and the thought of handling such a big vehicle."

The trick will be to cut across all ages, family sizes and leisure interests to find an audience big enough to support the expectation of the manufacturers.



The Galaxy, a people-carrier Ford will produce with Volkswagen at a factory in Portugal at a rate of 100,000 a year

Ford's marketing people asked 49,000 motorists what they wanted and found not only drivers with big families considering vehicles that double as saloon and estate. Retired motorists wanted something to carry the grandchildren at weekends, health freaks wanted something to carry their mountain bikes to the lakes and families wanted a vehicle big enough to carry the children safely — and enough luggage for a fortnight.

The carmakers just have to convince you that you need one. If they are all as good as the Galaxy, they might just manage it. The Galaxy was designed in partnership with VW, mainly in Germany but also at Ford's design centre in Dunton, Essex. The result is a vehicle with the tough reassurance of a VW and some of the style that has been invading Ford cars recently.

It looks more like an inflated executive car than a minibus, although it will carry seven people in reasonable comfort. Up front, the driver and passenger can barely feel the difference: the driving position is high, as in a 4x4, and the nose protrudes from a deep windscreen, but the dashboard is the same and the switchgear is familiar from VW cars.

The Galaxy and the Sharan — details of which are due to be announced next week — share everything under the bonnet, including the Dagenham 2-litre or a 2.8-litre V6 from VW (diesels come later). The only differences will be in exterior styling. The manual 2-litre will also deliver an average 28mpg compared with 25 for the V6.

On the road, the Galaxy drives like an executive saloon, the gear throw — adapted from the Mondeo — is swift and sure and the vehicle easy to push around corners.

The Ford 2-litre package feels more cohesive, while the 124mph 2.8 version seems like gilding the lily, turning family transport into an outlandish 170bhp mean machine.

The "lifestyle" cues are all there: separate rear heater, power point and seats that unclip to be replaced by everything from a refrigerator to cycle racks. You can flip and swivel the seats into six different positions, put them down to use airline-style food-and-drink trays or leave behind a row of seats to increase luggage space.

In fact, the Ford Galaxy is, well... a multi-purpose vehicle, and at prices close to the estate-car competition, such as the Mondeo (£12,800 to £21,000), the Peugeot 405 (£16,000 to £18,000) and the Volvo 850 (£18,000 to £25,000). The Galaxy starts at £15,995 and goes up to £23,300 for the bells-and-whistles Ghia version.

Yet I wonder whether there are enough people out there not working a 60-hour week to survive their negative equity and with time to enjoy one. But perhaps the marketing people will be proved right after all.

Taking a virtual route to a test drive

Try the ultimate test drive: a trip to the beach without leaving the showroom, *Kevin Eason writes*. Ford yesterday revealed the Galaxy system that will transport potential car buyers to the world of virtual reality. Instead of poring over brochures, customers simply strap on a headset and go for an imaginary drive.

They watch virtual pedestrians, admire the virtual scenery, turn on the virtual radio and open or shut virtual electric windows with their virtual hand. At the same time, they can choose the colour of the upholstery and change around the rear seats of the seven-seater people carrier.

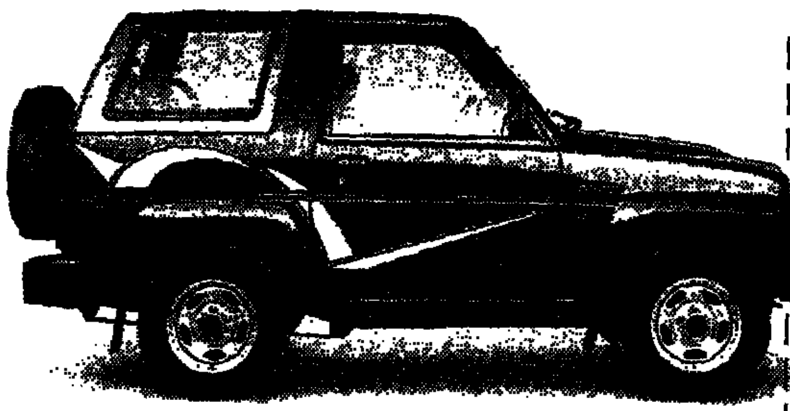
The company has been testing eight of the £35,000 virtual reality simulators at county shows and exhibitions. They will now be installed in showrooms as dealers discover they do not need to stock large numbers of the real thing when they can use the simulator to show customers what they are buying. Uschi Englert, the Ford executive coordinating the Galaxy launch in Britain, says: "The feedback we are getting from customers is very positive."

Looking into the future in the Galaxy simulator

Virtual reality could go even further, for Ford is planning to test simulators on which to train mechanics. The headset picture could guide trainee mechanics around the inner workings of the engine compartment without them getting a single oily thumbprint on the paintwork. "That is something we are keen on," says Ms Englert. "We can take mechanics into the closest detail by computer."

The Galaxy software took four months to programme by designers from the Virtually Group in London and IBM, which is manufacturing the system at Greenock, Scotland. Photographs of the Galaxy were scanned and digitised into computer form so that everything seen through the headset reflects the exact dimensions and layout of the vehicle. Customers sit in a seat taken from the front of a Galaxy and don a lightweight headset with handset, which manipulates an imaginary on-screen hand.

Then a virtual chauffeur takes them on an imaginary four-minute ride, through town and country, even avoiding an errant virtual truck which pulls out in front of the Galaxy.



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THE AA GRIDLOCK GUIDE

● LONDON

England play Brazil at Wembley today (kick-off 4pm). Hold-ups can like on the A406 , A404 and A40.

Trooping the Colour is on at Horse Guards between 10am and 1pm next Saturday. .

A406 North Circular Rd, Upper Edmonton. Road width reduced on the Lea Valley Viaduct until the end of theyear.

A219 Putney Bridge. Reduced to one lane each way for repairs.

A5201 Clerkenwell: Clerkenwell Rd junction with Farringdon Road closed for bridge works until May 1996.

● SOUTH EAST

Biggin Hill International Fair in Kent ends on Sunday. Expect heavy traffic on the A21, A233 and local roads.

Epsom Derby in Surrey goes on until Sunday. Heavy traffic at Epsom Downs, Tattenham Corner, A24 and A217.

M25 Surrey. Two sets of roadworks and lane closures, between J10 and 11 (A3-Chertsey) and J7 and J8 (M23-Reigate).

M23 J9 (Gatwick). Contraflow for major roadworks; northbound queues in mornings.

M26 J1-2 (nr M25. Kent). Contraflow for maintenance with extra lane closures overnight (until July).

A3 Guildford, Surrey. Major roadworks between Stoke Interchange and Compton. Long delays daily.

A21 Coopers Corner, Kent. Major roadworks start on Monday 5th June, with temporary lights at the junction with the B2099 (nr the Cross Keys Pub).

A27 Slindon, Sussex. Closed between the A29 junction and the Ford Road roundabout from 6am to 8.30pm tomorrow. Diversions via A284 and Whiteways roundabout.

● SOUTH WEST

M5 Avon. Two separate contraflows for major roadworks, between J19 and 17 (Portbury- Bristol West) and J17 and 16 (Bristol West-Almondsbury). The southbound entry slip road at J16 is also closed.

M5 Gloucestershire Two seperate contraflows for roadworks, between J12 and 11 (Gloucester- Cheltenham) and at J9 (Tewkesbury).

A417 Gloucester, Gloucestershire. Contraflow on the Barnwood Bypass, between the Gloucester Trading Estate and C & G roundabout (until mid-July).

A4019 Cheltenham, Gloucestershire. Roadworks continue on the High Street at the junction with Tewkesbury Road and Gloucester Road. A temporary one-way system is operating.

A36 nr Norton Saint Philip, Somerset. Major roadworks at junction with A366 (until July).

A3074 Carbis Bay to Saint Ives, Cornwall. Roadworks: with two sets of temporary lights working around the clock. (until July)

A39 Penryn, Cornwall. Traffic using just two lanes on the river bridge during maintenance. (until October)

● MIDLANDS AND EAST ANGLIA

M1 nr J21 (Leicester). Contraflow with only 2 lanes running southbound (3 northbound) which causes regular delays (to exit south to services or J21 stay in the left lane).

M6 West Midlands J5-6 (A462-A38M). Contraflow with three narrow lanes each way and some restrictions on the slip roads at J6.

A45 Stonebridge, West Midlands. Flyover construction at the A452 junction & widening between the M42 J6 & Stonebridge Island (until July).

A4123 nr Dudley, West Midlands. One lane closed each way on the Birmingham New Rd, between Burnt Tree Island and the Tipton Rd junction.

A453 Nottingham, Nottinghamshire. New major roadworks underway on Clifton Lane between Fabis Drive and Clifton Bridge (until start of September).

A47 Peterborough, Cambridgeshire. New traffic lights are being installed on the Soke Parkway at the junction with Bourges Boulevard. Lane closures will cause delays. (Starts on Monday 12 until October)

● NORTH

M6 Lancashire J29-32 (Bamber Bridge-Broughton). Widening works with only two lanes southbound at J31 (Samlesbury), until mid July.

A1 Dishforth, North Yorkshire. Two narrow lanes each way through a contraflow until the end of June.

A168 Dishforth, North Yorkshire. Temporary lights at the bridge over the A1 (until mid June).

A19 County Durham Major roadworks between Peterlee and Hawthorn.

A41 Merseyside. Contraflow on the New Ferry Bypass (until mid-June).

A1 Stannington, Northumberland. Lane closures for bridge work. Long delays expected through the rush hour (until July)

A1058 Jesmond Road, Newcastle One lane each way on Cradlewell Bypass, until September.

● WALES

A48 Dyfed. Contraflow in place west of J49 of the M4 (Pont Abraham), for construction.

A467 Newport, Gwent Contraflow on Forge Lane while improvement work s under way on the A48 between J28 of the M4 and the Tredegar Park Roundabout.

A5 Maerdy, Clwyd. Improvements continue at the Glyn bends. Various restrictionsuntil end July.

A465 West Glamorgan, between Llandarcy and Aberdulais. Contraflow on Saltings viaduct. Add 30 minutes at peak-times.

A4223 Pontypridd, Mid Glamorgan. One-way system operating on Gelliwastad Road because of widening work (until July).

A449 Gwent and A40 between Newport and Monmouth. Major works with lane closures reducing much of route to one lane.

● SCOTLAND

M90 Tayside J10 (Friarton Bridge). Northbound lane closure together with a contraflow overnight.

M8 Strathclyde J15-18 (Townhead-Charing Cross). Outside lane closed westbound.

A91 Kirkcaldy, Fife. Width restrictions on St Clair Street for roadworks (until July).

A8000 nr South Queensferry, Lothian. Temporary lights at Kirkliston Road for roadworks (until August).

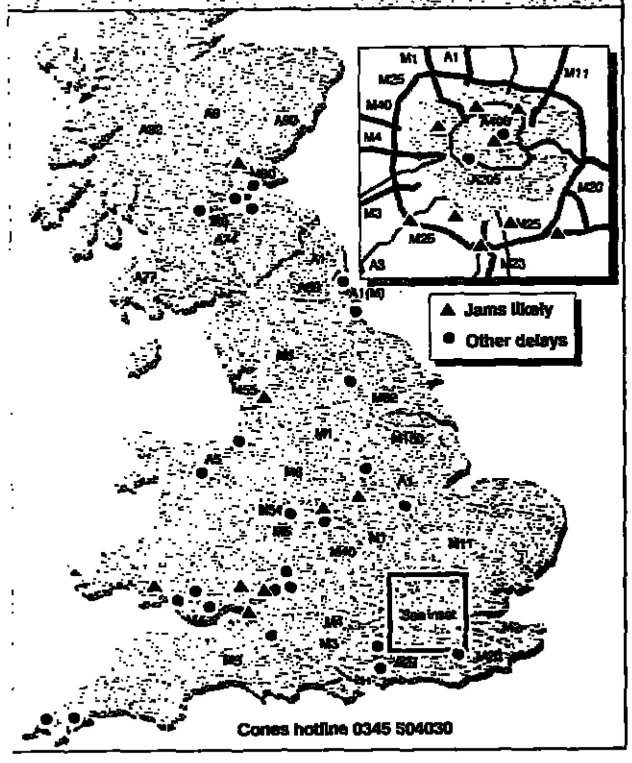
Edinburgh, Lothian. Width restrictions on the High Street between the North and South bridges (until July).

● NORTHERN IRELAND

M1 nr J10 (Lurgan). Contraflow for major roadworks with the westbound entry and exit slip roads at J10 closed (until June 4)

A26 Ballymoney, County Londonderry. Temporary lights on Greenhill Road at the junction with the bypass until September.

MAJOR ROADWORKS



Cones hotline 0345 504030

Accidents looking for somewhere to happen are all too common on our debris-strewn highways

Don't rubbish the motorway rules

DRIVEN TO DISTRACTION

Peter Barnard

Accidents will happen. The Concise Oxford defines an accident as an event that is "*without apparent* cause, or unexpected". This being so, we are overly prone to inquiry and investigation when high-profile accidents happen, often followed by legislation out of all proportion to the original event.

There has been no better illustration in recent years than the ridiculous insistence on all-seater football grounds since the Bradford fire and the Hillsborough tragedy, two events having nothing in common bar their context. But let us take two recent events on the roads and, resisting impulsive conclusions, see what they teach us about road safety.

The M4 coach crash in which 13 people died and the subsequent incident elsewhere in which a driver was killed when he tried to remove a shredded tyre from the carriageway had in common the presence of debris on the road and deaths related to it.

Those of us who spend more time on motorways than we would care to log well know that this kind of accident was looking for somewhere to happen. It happens with alarming frequency, but usually without attracting much public attention.

There is too much junk on our motorways but I am not in the lobby that says more should be done about removing it. The highway authorities have vehicles that clear up junk periodically, and I daresay we have all complained about being stuck behind one, or having to slow down at the sight of its yellow flashing lights.

To suggest, as some have, that these vehicles ought to be out more often is to say that what our motorways need is yet another slow-moving truck getting in our way. This approach is like using painkillers to treat toothache: it confuses the symptom with the disease. The problem lies not with the people charged with removing rubbish but with the people who dump it.

Last year, not five miles from the site of the recent coach crash, one of my daughters narrowly escaped injury when a pile of red-and-white planks used to define roadworks slipped off a pickup truck and hit the front of her car, removing the number plate. The lorry sailed on oblivious. The police were less than enthusiastic when this was reported to them.

But lorries are far from the only culprits. Twice recently I saw people in cars toss plastic bags from their windows, and one of them, which was black, flattened itself on my windscreen, effectively blinding me.

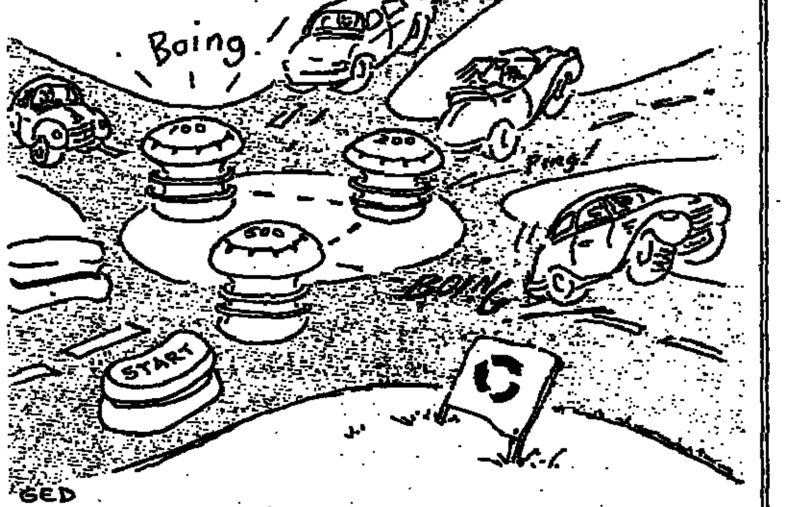
There are plenty of regulations covering unsafe loads and dangerous behaviour on the highways. The only further role for the authorities is for the police to mount a campaign against transgressors and magistrates to impose swingeing fines.

We are a *mucky* nation on the whole but the point where our nasty habits start killing people is the point at which we need to start enforcing existing powers.

I AM standing near a mini-roundabout counting vehicles. One hundred go through the junction, of which 77 ignore the little white blob and drive straight across the junction. Of the 23 that do not, four are showing L-plates. But don't worry, they'll learn.

As the Government discovered over the poll tax, that which is generally disdained might as well be dumped. On the other hand, there are junctions which are neither one thing nor another — not large enough for a grown-up roundabout, too large for no markings at all.

Uncharacteristically, I am not sure whether we need to do away with mini-roundabouts and revert to give-way signs or build little walls around the roundabouts so that anyone trying *to drive straight* across will do so only once. I feel confident that where I do not have an opinion, you will.



Edward Marriott hires a bike and joins mean machines at the Isle of Man TT

Lure of a deadly game

Ambulances are an unfortunate necessity on the world-famous Isle of Man circuit, where riders reach 140mph

The death toll is as grim as it is predictable — already this year's Isle of Man TT has claimed eight lives. So why, every June, do 40,000 bikers descend on this tiny otherwise blameless, tax haven? Why, when they know *they will be risking their* lives on the island's wild, unregulated backroads, do they come back year after year?

This, anyway, was what my wife has wanted to know ever since I booked my ferry ticket from Liverpool to Douglas back in March. Two weeks ago, as the TT loomed, she insisted I make a will.

What she understood, all too well, was that it is this very element of danger, the fact that the Isle of Man has no speed limits on its country roads, that draws bike fanatics from all over Europe. They care little that the actual TT (Tourist Trophy) championship is considered too dangerous to qualify as a world championship circuit and, therefore, no longer attracts the top riders.

This year both Steve Hislop and Carl Fogarty, previous Formula One winners and course record breakers, are sitting out the race. Their decision is not hard to understand: last year Hislop's friend Mark Farmer crashed and died in practice. Hislop and Fogarty have come to prefer the safer, shorter and specially built world championship circuits, which lack the Isle of Man's pitted roads and awkwardly placed buildings.

The fans, however, have no such scruples. To them, the lure of riding the course, which winds round more than 1,000 corners, through 37 miles, to a summit of 400 feet, is irresistible. They bank into the hairpins, knees to the ground, gunning through third to second, engine oil sharp in their nostrils, forgetting in the blur of speed, the bald facts: 160 competitors killed since 1911; an average of ten fans killed each year.

I, however, am an altogether different breed of biker, a greenhorn with a still-crisp, two-year-old licence. Fearful the hardened bikers would scoff at my aging Honda Transalp, I took the bold step of hiring a Yamaha XJ900 for the weekend. Until we joined the exodus onto the Liverpool ferry to Douglas, I had thought this "sports tourer" would draw admiring gasps. *Wrong. Strapped into the hold* of the ferry was the latest and most brutal motorcycle technology — 168mph Honda Fireblades, Ducati 916s, Triumph Speed Triples. Mine was a pygmy beside these *monsters*.

Alan Welbeck, 38, a plumber from Barnsley, was typical. Now on his eighth TT, he leaned on his M-reg Suzuki GSXR 1100 and explained his addiction to speed: "Yes, it is dangerous, and yes, I do probably drink a little too much, but I wouldn't miss it for the world. Everyone's here for the same reason — you can *do 150 and no flashing* blue light is going to pull you over. There's no hassle, no trouble, no yobs. It's just bikers together."

Certainly, if you don't fancy pub conversations about rear-end chatter and the merits of Kevlar padding over leather, there are few reasons to brave the Isle of Man during TT fortnight. And neither the music — hoary rabble-rousers Suzi Quatro and Showaddywaddy running *through decades-old routines* — nor the cuisine — chips and burgers and more chips — are likely to change your mind.

Even the sideshows are bike-related. Every night, thousands gather along the seafront at Douglas to witness the bizarre, time-honoured *spectacles of* "wheelie-chucking" and "doughnut burning"(spinning the back tyre until it bursts). On Friday night the crowd was kept entertained by a biker who revved up and down the promenade wearing only a helmet, thigh-length boots, and underpants pulled down to expose a moon-pale bottom.

> 'Help someone to live' say the donor cards

In the Isle of Man, which benefits from *TT fortnight* to the tune of about £14 million, the white-helmeted lawmen just smiled. Even those pulled over for speeding in town or reckless driving do not have their convictions trasferred to their UK or EC licences.

When I finally came to brave the course, it was with considerable foreboding. Twice in the first mile, clocking a respectable 90 along a high-hedged straight, I was forced sideways by twin yellow Triumph Daytonas, touching at least 140mph. Climbing, shaky-kneed, from my bike afterwards, it felt sweet, even miraculous to be alive.

In the pub were donor card *forms*: 'Help someone to live after your death'. Pinned to the wall, a poster with two skeletons on bikes, read: "Leave the races to the aces".

The locals, wisely, do their best to keep off the roads during the TT. Yet, despite all the high-octane madness, *many* welcome the bikers and reject the idea of a speed limit. Brian Partington, the vicar of St John's, a village in the centre of the island, has lived on the island for 27 years. For him, each TT is exciting. "The *Isle of Man's one of the last* places where you have the freedom to travel as fast as you like. Long may it last."

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Vaughan Freeman goes racing in a suburban workhorse whose makers decided to add vroom appeal

How I took a Volvo estate to 140mph

VAUGHAN FREEMAN

Tim Harvey, saloon car champion, tells Vaughan Freeman where he was going wrong: "The front tyres are not getting a chance to warm up and that's why they are juddering. You must go faster"

Climbing aboard Volvo's racing 850 British Touring Car Championship estate, I had certainly looked the part — crash helmet crushing my airway, pyjama-style speed suit on, race harness buckled ferociously around the nether regions — before hurtling down the pit lane and out on to the circuit to see what all the BTCC fuss is about.

I was the first British journalist to drive this car, yet within seconds I was cursing it for an apparent and appalling handling problem which then forced me into the pits, where I explained the difficulty to my tutor for the day, the saloon car champion Tim Harvey.

Politely, gently, in a test of will power that only just kept his widening grin from outright laughter, he clarified problem and remedy. "You're driving too slowly," he said. "The front tyres are not getting a chance to warm up and are out of balance. That's why they are juddering. You must go faster."

Thanks, Tim. Bathed in sweat, deafened by the engine and hideously uncomfortable in a car that is all steel roll cage and sharp edges, I gathered the shreds of my confidence and set off again, trying desperately to remember the morning's tuition.

It had all seemed such a good idea — come and drive the Volvo 850 estate that campaigned so successfully in last year's championship, and which, having gained a boot and a rear wing, is the basis for this season's racing Volvo, a saloon car.

Of course, there'd be a few problems handling the car, but nothing the man from *The Times* couldn't handle — after all, isn't his family runabout a Volvo estate? The fact that the former Formula 1 champion Nigel Mansell had been unable to keep his Ford Mondeo on the tarmac during a guest BTCC appearance should have rung more alarm bells.

The morning had begun in a small classroom as Tim, the 1992 BTCC champion, outlined the basics of the Donington Park circuit. Then there was the 300bhp 850 estate. Like the road-going 850, it has a two-litre, five-cylinder engine. There, all similarities end. This car is happiest at the sort of revs, in excess of 6,500, that would melt most engines. Its top speed is about 140mph, but it shines most in its acceleration and speed through corners — two and three times more than the fastest sports car.

> 'In a race, there are 23 other nutters on the track'

Soon, Tim was talking about clipping the apex, of snatching fifth through corners and of blind brows at others. Then there was the gem dropped into the briefing that the gearchange is not the normal H-shaped arrangement, but a sequential back-and-forth affair that must be pulled straight back to go up the gears and straight forward to come down them. Or was it the other way round?

Tim took the car round for three laps to warm it up; as the passenger, my main task was to fight the nausea. The G-forces are formidable, like those on a fairground ride that whirls around and forces you to the wall. We swapped seats and there was a moment's panic when Tim removed his helmet and revealed he was not coming with me. "Much as I'd like to," he said, "they just don't pay me enough. Good luck."

The discomfort in such a car verges on the painful. Inside, it is clinically white, stripped of everything, although purposeful switches and buttons are everywhere. Even through the ear plugs and helmet, the noise obliterates everything and affects your concentration. Strangely, amid the high-tech paraphernalia, only the control panel of the heater, with nothing atached to it, hangs above the gearstick to comply with the racing rules. These are, after all, family cars.

Nudge the gearstick forward into first, ease off the accelerator . . . haven't stalled — that's a good start. Off down the pit lane and on to the track, pulling back on the stick to go up the gears. Then began the horrendous vibration through the corners and the soul-destroying pit stop.

Having lost all pride, I started again, screwing courage to whatever sticking points I could find, and threw the car at the empty track, making a hash of it. After a few laps, top revs in sixth gear at last came up and there was some masochistic satisfaction in knowing that this was as fast as I could go — even if it was only in a straight line. Then I was braking for the chicane before the pit lane, a maneouvre that threw me against the seatbelt harness. I pressed the accelerator and took off again down the start/finish straight.

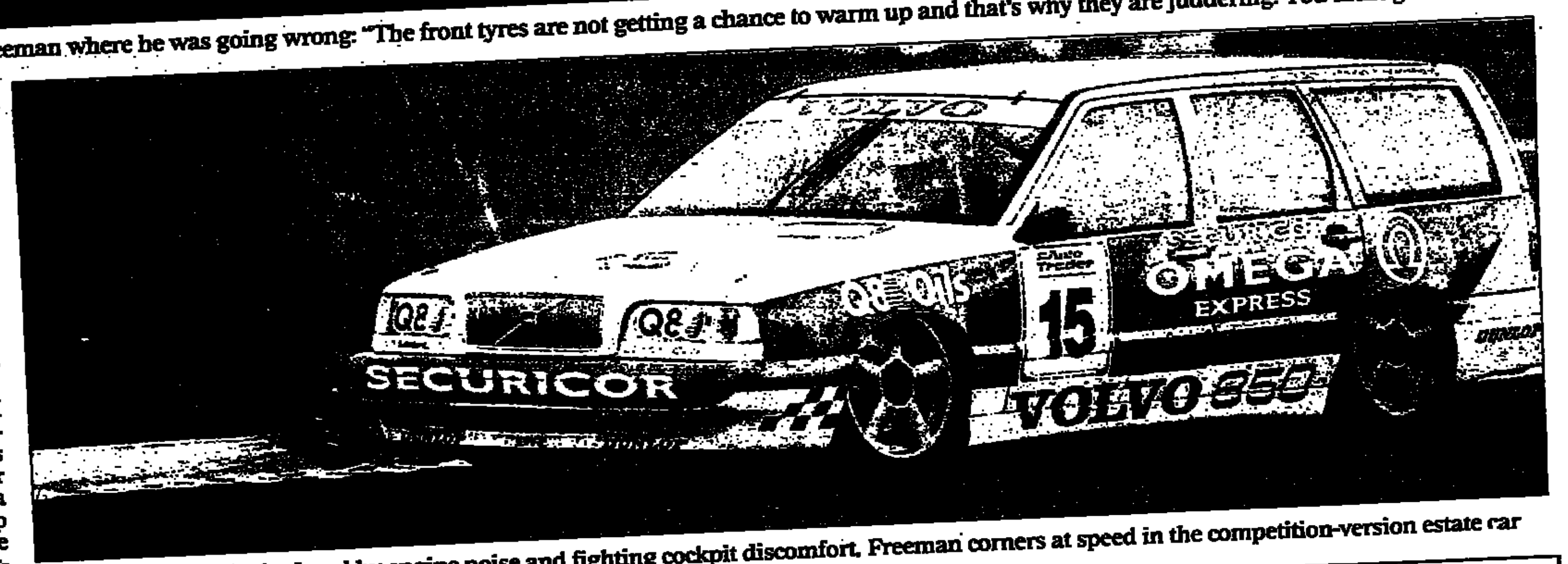
Abruptly, the "come in" board appeared over the pit wall and it was time to finish. I had the feeling I had when I was a child and the fairground dodgem ride ended: you can't believe it's over, and you've spent your last 20p.

Apart from accompanying journalists, what does Tim find most frightening about BTCC racing, and why is it such a crowd-puller? He said: "The most frightening part is knowing that there are 23 other nutters on the track with you, each trying to occupy the piece of road that you want.

"What makes it so exciting is that for racing drivers the speeds these cars reach bear no comparison to Formula 1; we can comfortably drive them to the absolute limit all the time."

That's easy for him to say. At least I had the compensation of going one better than Mansell and getting the car back to the pits unbent, then folding away the racing pyjamas for good. They didn't fit very well, anyway.

● *BTCC rounds 11 and 12 take place at Brands Hatch tomorrow. Details: 01474 872331.*



Bathed in sweat, deafened by engine noise and fighting cockpit discomfort, Freeman corners at speed in the competition-version estate car

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Travelling to the heart of true Wales

Tim Jones guides you through an area steeped in pride

This 113-mile trip takes you into the heart of Welsh-speaking, Bible-belt Wales. There was little in this land, save for slate, to attract Victorian iron or coal entrepreneurs, so it mostly escaped the ravages of the Industrial Revolution.

It is still an underpopulated region where buzzards ride the thermals and wild goats look with disdain on the backpackers who try to reach the lofty crags they inhabit. The landscape is dominated by the great massifs of the Snowdonia range — known in Welsh as the Land of the Eagles.

Menai Bridge, Gwynedd, where the tour begins, is magnificently situated on the Menai Strait and joined to the mainland by Telford's elegant suspension bridge. Nine miles away, at Caernarfon, Edward I's great castle guards the western edge of the mountain fastness, which gave the last princes of Wales refuge in their struggles against becoming England's first colony.

Turning away from the narrow coastal belt, the road leads through Llanrug, where the Bryn Bras gardens are worth a visit, to Llanberis, a town so Welsh as to be unwashed by the tourist tide.

Standing on the edge of clear, slate-blue Llyn Padarn, Llanberis is the starting point for the easiest walk to the summit of Snowdon, a route shared by the rack-and-pinion railway to the top. Walkers are warned that conditions 3,000ft up from the car park can be savage.

At Beddgelert, still deep in the mountain range, Prince Llywelyn is said to have slain a wolfhound he thought had killed his son, only to discover too late that the dog had been fighting off a wolf.

Slowly, the corkscrew road descends to Porthmadog, a town built on the back of the slate trade and starting point for the Ffestiniog Railway. Of all the great little trains of Wales, this must be the finest.

Now we are in bedrock Methodist Wales and to prove it, the pubs are closed on Sundays. Portmeirion, a few miles away, is the fantasy Italianate village created by Sir Clough Williams-Ellis.

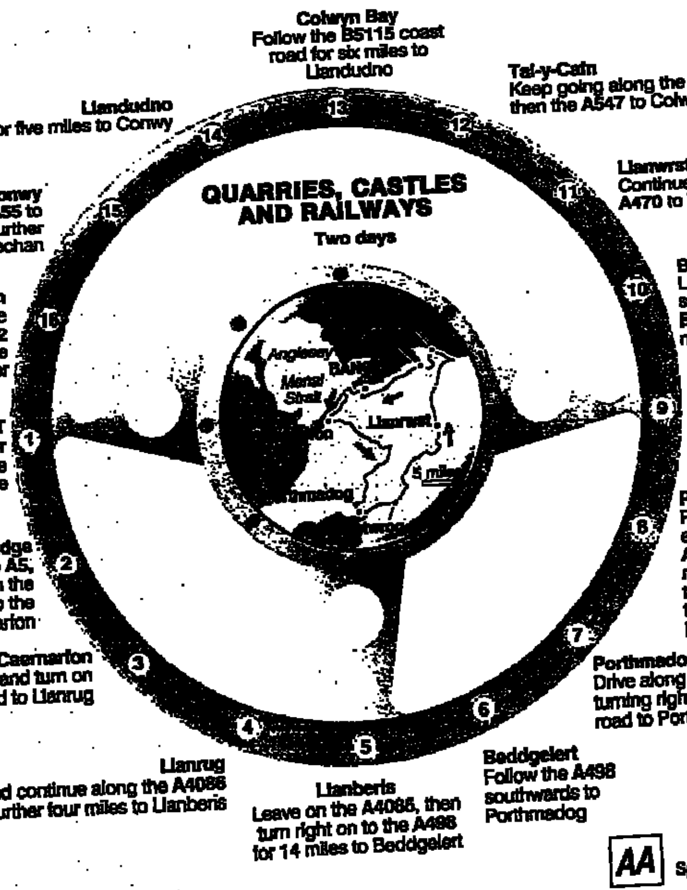
Back in the mountains, Blaenau Ffestiniog is unmistakable, scarred forever by the slate industry that tore chunks out of the mountains. In the reopened caverns, old craftsmen now perform slate-cutting for the tourists.

Twelve miles away, Betws-y-Coed is set among forested land where the crash of the Swallow Falls sends up spray to dance in rainbows with the sun. Tourists can see bedspreads and tweeds being made at Llanrwst's Trefriw Woollen Mills. At Tal-y-Cafn, the 80-acre Bodnant gardens feature displays of native and exotic trees and flowers.

Colwyn Bay and Llandudno are popular resorts — but we are now leaving Welsh Wales.

● *Based on AA Tour Guide Britain, £9.99 from AA shops and booksellers.*

CAR 95 ROUND BRITAIN TOURS



START
Theatr Gwynedd, Bangor
Drive on the A5122 for three miles to Menai Bridge

Menai Bridge
Follow the A4080 to the A5, recross the Menai Strait on the Britannia Bridge, then on to the A487 to Caernarfon

Caernarfon
Take the A4086 eastwards and turn on to an unclassified road to Llanrug

Llanrug
Return to and continue along the A4086 for a further four miles to Llanberis

Llanberis
Leave on the A4086, then turn right on to the A498 for 14 miles to Beddgelert

Beddgelert
Follow the A498 southwards to Porthmadog

Porthmadog
Drive along the A487 before turning right on to an unclassified road to Portmeirion

Portmeirion
Return to and take the A487 eastwards, turning left on to the A496 at Maentwrog. Shortly turn right on to the B4391 which joins the A470 at Ffestiniog. Turn left on to the A470 and continue to Blaenau Ffestiniog

Blaenau Ffestiniog
Continue along the A470 to Betws-y-Coed

Betws-y-Coed
Leave Betws-y-Coed on the A5, shortly turning right on to the B5106 and follow it north for four miles to Llanrwst

Llanrwst
Continue along the A470 to Tal-y-Cafn

Tal-y-Cafn
Keep going along the A470 and then the A547 to Colwyn Bay

Colwyn Bay
Follow the B5115 coast road for six miles to Llandudno

Llandudno
Drive south along the A546 for five miles to Conwy

Conwy
Head west along the A55 to Penmaenmawr and further along to Llanfairfechan

Llanfairfechan
Keep on along the A55 before turning right on to the A5122 passing Penrhyn Castle on the return to Bangor

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THE TIMES

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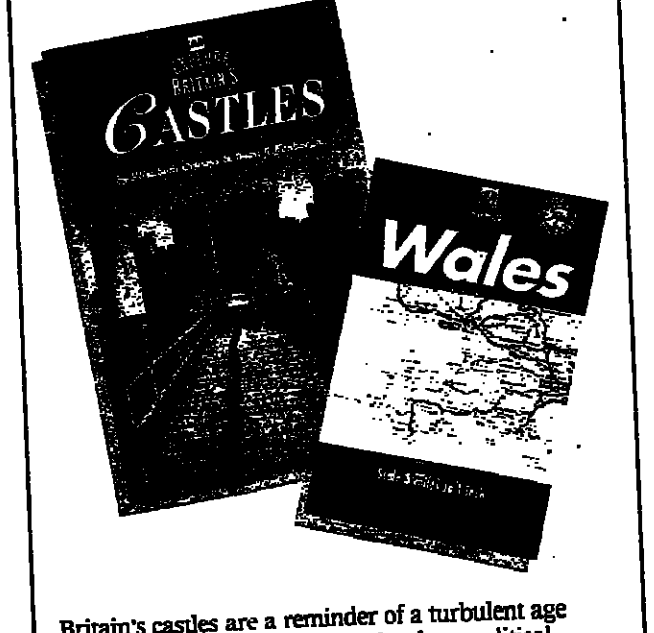

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Eric Dymock reports on a new Mercedes-Benz vehicle, to be assembled outside Germany

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A made-in-Birmingham Mercedes? Not quite. It is Birmingham, Alabama, not Birmingham, England. Tuscaloosa to be exact, 45 miles southwest of Birmingham.

This new Mercedes is being developed in Stuttgart, and then Tuscaloosa, where Mercedes-Benz is setting up its first car factory outside Germany. There a research and development team will design a second-generation all activity vehicle (AAV) for the American market. The first cars will sell mostly in America; but their second-biggest market will be Germany and third-biggest Britain, where it will compete with the Land Rover Discovery, the Range Rover, and the Mitsubishi Shogun.

America is the home of the off-road, leisure-sport vehicle; 1.3 million will be sold there this year, with expectations of a rise to 1.7 million by 2005. Mercedes analysts believe that while growth in the 4x4 sector as a whole may level off, the premium range will continue to expand as luxury-car drivers forsake large saloons.

The 4x4 carries just as much executive clout, the view is better and it projects a gratifying lifestyle image. So, instead of the speed and power they scarcely need on crowded roads, buyers can have off-road capability they never use.

The new car will be launched in America in 1997 and come to Britain the following spring. Large, tall, and with five doors, it will be something between a Range Rover-style 4x4 and a multi-purpose vehicle, with a good performance off-road, although perhaps short of the go-anywhere standards of a Land Rover or Mercedes' own rather stern G-Wagen. Instead, it will emphasise a smooth ride, and good handling — more like a passenger car. Unusually the Mercedes will have independent suspension to each wheel.

There will be three engine choices, a 2.9 litre 24-valve V-6 turbo-diesel of 150bhp, a V-6 petrol engine of 2.4 litres and 250bhp — one of a new family of Mercedes engines soon to be announced — and a 5.0 litre V-8. The diesel version could be £23,000, and the petrol cars £27,000 and £38,000 at UK Mercedes AAV dealers.

The prices at this stage must be conjecture, and have been revealed by Mercedes only in the hope that some people may hold off from buying next year's Range Rover until their new car comes along.

There is a new corporate culture at Mercedes-Benz. Cars are no longer designed by engineers regardless of cost and then handed over to the sales people to sell. Now the process is reversed. They are conceived on the basis of what the customers want, and then engineered with the aim of providing Mercedes quality at realistic prices. Engines and transmissions for the W163, as the car is code-named, will come from Germany, and assembly at Tuscaloosa will be by modules bought in from outside suppliers.

This means, according to Roland Folger, head of marketing at Mercedes-Benz US International Inc, that Mercedes-Benz cars may no longer be so highly priced, even though its new AAV is still expected to set new standards in the sports vehicle category.

Modular construction is based on the system devised in the 1920s by William Morris. Instead of being produced from raw materials, Morris cars were assembled, from pieces by made outside suppliers in Cowley, near Oxford.

The steel for the doors of the Mercedes AAV will be stamped by an outside supplier, fixed to the body and painted by Mercedes-Benz, then detached and sent away to be completed with window-glass, trim, electric motors for winders, handles, locks, before being returned for re-hanging on the finished vehicle.

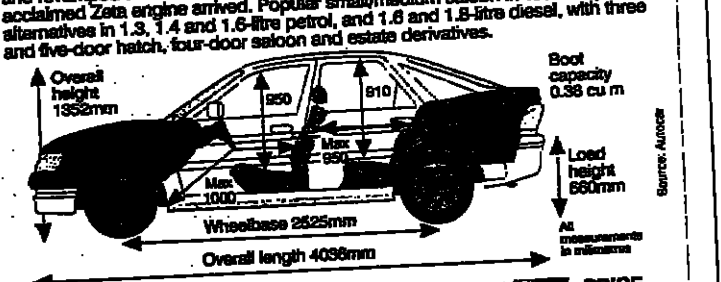
It is a far cry from Morris Motors in the shadow of the Cotswolds to Mercedes-Benz in the foothills of the Appalachians, and a long time since Morris imported Continental engines from America.

Now Mercedes-Benz is bringing engines from Europe to its car factory in the United States, for a vehicle competing head-on with the Range Rover from the stable of its arch-rival BMW.

USED CAR BRIEF

Ford Escort/Orion

The new-shape hatch-back Escort and its booted Orion brother were launched in 1990, to a chorus of raspberries from a critical motoring press. Engines were carried over from the earlier range with the 1.6-litre model basically an enlarged version of the 1.4-litre 1980 unit. Since the launch Ford has consistently modified and revamped the Escort to disarm most of the early brickbats. In 1992 the acclaimed Zeta engine arrived. Popular small/medium saloon in vast array of alternatives in 1.3, 1.4 and 1.6-litre petrol, and 1.6 and 1.8-litre diesel, with three and five-door hatch, four-door saloon and estate derivatives.



Source: Autocar

GOOD NEWS: Reliable, practical and unexciting, the best thing about the Escort /Orion range is that there are loads around so shopping for precisely the right car should not be too traumatic. Considered easy to work on, 1000 Ford outlets and many more non-Ford garages make servicing and maintenance a local affair.

BAD NEWS: Numerous examples suffer starter and alternator problems, uneven front tyre wear, and water leaks- check that carpets in the front and the rear load-deck are dry and that there is no rust underneath them.

LOOK FOR: Rust around the wheel-arches and the battery tray, and check the camshaft drive belt for wear after 36,000 miles. Look for bright colours such as red as the Escort/Orion is one of those cars that can lose hundreds of pounds on resale if it's a dull green or dowdy mustard.

AVOID: Diesels slow and noisy, particularly at start-up and tickover, and 1.3 and 1.4-litre petrol engines even less exciting than the rest. Cars that have been used by companies and fleets could well have led a hard life so check service history.

PRICE RANGE: Expect to pay £3,500 for a 1990 H-reg 1.3-litre three- door Escort, £4,250 for a 1990 H-reg 1.4 LX CFi estate, £9,000 for a 1993 L-reg Escort 1.6 Ghia, and £6,750 for a 1992 K-reg Orion 1.8 Ghia Si 16valve.

SAFETY RATING: Pre-1990 Escorts /Orions rate below average in the Department of Transport safety rankings, but post 1990 examples fare much better, and come at the top of the lower medium car group alongside cars like the VW Golf.

REPLACEMENT PARTS: (Prices include VAT): clutch assembly £85; full exhaust £185; rear shock absorber £50; front shock absorber £35; front brakepads £50; alternator £90 (exchange); starter motor £95 (exchange); tyre£45-55

INSURANCE RATING Cover from AA Insurance (0800 444777) on a 1990 Ford Escort 1.4LX, will cost a 55-year old male, with full no claims bonus living in Winchester, £144.25 fully comprehensive, and a 55-year old female living in the same area also with full no claims bonus £148.25. A 22-year old male with one year's no claim bonus living in South London will pay £423, and a 22-year old female with one year's no claims bonus living in South London will pay £377.

OVERALL: Booted Orion versions, although mechanicaly identical, are on average around 10per cent cheaper than the hatched Escort. Best examples are almost certainly to be found at a Ford dealer through the Ford Direct used car network for a peace-of-mind purchase, even if Ford Direct cars are more expensive than those bought privately or at non-franchised outlets.

CARS FROM £15,000 - £25,000

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Vauxhall Frontera 2.3 5dr	15150	15150	0.00
Honda Prelude 2.0 2dr	14550	14550	0.00
Ford Granada 2.9 Ghia Auto Estate	15295	15295	0.00
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Mitsubishi Sigma Auto 4dr	19795	19495	-1.52
Mercedes Benz C180 Classic Auto 4dr	17595	17495	-0.57
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BMW 320i 4dr Auto	17850	17695	-0.87
BMW 525i 4dr Auto	22250	22250	0.00
Citroen XM 2.0si Turbo Estate Auto	15650	15650	0.00
Ford Maverick 2.7 GLX T/D 5dr	16395	16095	-1.83
Honda Legend 4dr Saloon Auto	23750	23750	0.00
Isuzu Trooper 3.2i 5dr	18095	17495	-3.32
Land Rover Discovery Diesel 3dr	17350	17250	-0.58
Mazda Xedos 6 2.0i V6 SE 4dr Auto	17450	16850	-3.49
Mazda RX-7 turbo	22500	23250	3.33
Mercedes Benz E220 Auto 4dr	22250	22000	-1.12
Mitsubishi Shogun V6 5dr 2972cc	22500	21950	-2.44
Peugeot 605 V6 SVE 4dr Auto	15595	15595	0.00
Renault Espace 2.0 RT Estate 5dr	15795	15795	0.00
Renault Safrane 3.0 RXE V6 5dr Auto	16995	16995	0.00
Rover Sterling Saloon 4dr Auto	18350	17695	-3.57
Saab New 900 2.5 V6 SE 5dr	18795	18595	-1.06
Sabb 900 CSE 2.3 Eco Power 5dr	20500	20500	0.00
Subaru Impreza Turbo 2000	15795	15795	0.00
Toyota New Camry 3.0 V6 GX 4dr Auto	18150	18150	0.00
Toyota Landcruiser Diesel Turbo 3dr	17995	17495	-2.78
Vauxhall Omega 2.0i 16v CD Estate	16795	16795	0.00
Volkswagen Corrado VR6 3dr Coupe	18250	18250	0.00
Volkswagen New Golf 2.8 VR6 5dr	16350	16250	-0.61
Volvo 940 Diesel GLE Turbo 4dr	18195	18195	0.00
Audi New 80 2.6E Estate 5dr	15895	16150	1.60
BMW 520i Touring Estate Auto	19550	19350	-1.02
Daihatsu Fourtrak TDX Ind 3dr	15950	15495	-2.85
Mercedes Benz E250 4dr	22500	22250	-1.11
Land Rover Discovery 3.9 V8i s 5dr	19495	19495	0.00
Isuzu Trooper D 3.1 Citation 5dr	22250	21500	-3.37
Saab CDE 2.0i Eco Power 4dr	17695	18250	3.14
Honda New Accord 2.3i SR 4dr Auto	14795	15150	2.40
Chrysler Jeep Cherokee 4.0 Ltd SE	20500	20500	0.00
Chrysler Jeep Cherokee 2.5 sport4dr	15295	15195	-0.65
Mercedes Benz C200 Elegance	20500	19750	-3.66

Prices rounded to simulate actual dealer forecourt prices HB = hatchback S = saloon. Price changes based on L-reg low mileage cars. Figures supplied by ***CAP Nationwide Motor Research.***

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95M 1.8 Amber Red, Alloys, Sunroof, Sports Seats £POA

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93	MERCEDES 500SE Almandine, Cream interior, ASR, A.Bag, 1 Owner, 24,000 miles	£43,950
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94	MERCEDES C280 Sport Auto, Air Cond, AMG 3.6 Body kit, Ext	£43,500 Value £32,950
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90	MERCEDES 300CE 24V Blue Black, Beige hide, A.C, ASC, v.h. Spec, 1 Onr, 21,000m	£22,950
92	ASTON MARTIN Virage Auto Lichfield Black, Mustard hide, 7,000m 1 Onr, FSH	£74,950
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89F 300SL Met, Hide, ABS, R.Seats, E.W, Alloys, Stereo	17,000	£31,995
86C 280SL LHD Black, Hide, ABS, R.Seats, Alloys, Stereo	8,000	£19,995
93L S500 LWB Hide, Climate, E.F.& R.H.Seats, E.S.R, Alloys, CD	4,000	£63,995
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92K 320CE Coupe Hide, AC, ES Roof, E.Seats, S/Line,Cruise, CD	14,000	£36,495
92K 300CE 24V Hide, AC, ABS, E.S.Roof, E.Seats, Cruise, Alloys	9,000	£33,995
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91J 300E 24V Auto 5 Speed, E.S.Roof, ABS, Sportline, Alloys	21,000	£21,995
91J 190E 2.5 16V 5Sp AC, E.S.Roof, Airbag, E M Seats, Alarm	26,000	£22,995
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91J Turbo 3.3 Coupe Hide, AC, E.S.Roof, PAS, ABS, Sports Seats	12,000	£49,995
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94M M3 Coupe, Hide, E.S.Roof, E.Seats, A.Bag, 17" alloys, spoiler	4,000	£36,995
94L 325i A Conv Met, Hide, AC, A.Bag, 17" Alloys, Many Extras	15,000	£32,995
89F 635CSi A Highline, Met, Hide, AC, E.S.Roof, ABS, Alloys	41,000	£15,995
95M 530i A Touring Hide, AC, E.H.Sts, New in excess of £40,000	3,000	£33,995
94L 525TDS SE Touring 5 Speed, Met, Hide, E.S.Roof x 2, A.Bag	6,000	£22,995
93L 525i A SE E.S.Roof, ABS, E.Windows, Alloys, Stereo	6,000	£21,995
94L 325i Coupe Met, Hide, AC, E.S.R, A.Bag, Comp, Alloys, Alarm	9,000	£23,995

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92J 518SE 5sp, Laser blue, Sunroof, Alloys, Stereo	41,000	£11995
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92J 316i 4dr 5sp, Brilliant Red/grey velour, Stereo	40,000	£11995
92J 525i SPORT Met Blk/gry sprts clth, a/con, 1 owner	39,000	£17995

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93K XJ6 3.2 Auto, Dsmd blue met/doeskin hide, air/con etc	15,000	£18995

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94M E200 Auto, Almandine Met/gry clth, s/roof, Alloys, stereo	10,000	£22500
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92K 220CE Cpe, Met Blk/cream hide, e/seats, 17" Alloys, BSR	33,000	£29995
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92K 190E 5sp, Blk/crm clth, s/roof, Alloys, CD player	31,000	£13995
91J 190E 2.6 Auto, Bril Blu met/blu cloth, extras	37,000	£15995
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93 K Sov 4.0, Diamond/Saville, 36T [illegible]
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94 L XJ6 3.2 Auto, Westminster, 7T [illegible]
94 K XJR 4.0 A, B.R.Green/Blue, 21T [illegible]
94 M XJ6 4.0 Sport A, Flamenco [illegible]
94 L XJ6 4.0 A Sport A, Oatmeal, 16T [illegible]
94 M XJ6 3.2 Sport A, Kingfisher, 9T [illegible]

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94 L [illegible] XJS 4.0 Conv A, Ice Blue, 6T [illegible]
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An estate that's a joy to park

Alan Copps loads up to test-drive the roomy Citroën ZX Aura

Packing people, especially children, and things into cars has become an art. The school run, that chore dreaded by so many parents, has been elevated to a "lifestyle experience" by manufacturers trying to sell multi-purpose vehicles, luxury four-wheel-drives and super estates.

But what if you want to carry your children and your luggage around and pack in the gear for your weekend activities, but can't afford an expensive lifestyle accessory? You may prefer anyway to drive something that feels like an ordinary car and can be parked just as easily.

For some time, the lower-medium estate represented an overlooked sector of the market in Britain, yet against a steep decline in sales to private car buyers last year it expanded from 34,000 in 1993 to nearly 43,000 and is fast becoming one of the most competitive areas.

It is also a sector in which economical diesel engines are becoming very popular. So the estate versions of the Citroën ZX, already the company's biggest-selling model ever in Britain, have to fight their corner.

That they do so successfully is largely due to some old-fashioned Citroën virtues. The words "comfort" and "practicality" would be high on the list of qualities most people associate with the marque. The suspension may no longer be the hydraulic sort that made the old DS rise on its haunches so amusingly, but it still irons out the bumps in the same way, and the rear compartment seems to have been designed not just for maximum capacity but also for ease of loading.

On a short test run, it is difficult to judge a car built for so many different situations so *CAR 95* has chosen a ZX Aura, the top of the estate range, for an extended test. Two things stand out from the first 1,500 miles: the performance of the 1.9-litre turbo diesel engine and its economy.

Soon after its introduction, the engine was described by *Autocar* as "the best small diesel in the world". Since then, a number of new challengers have appeared, but to the driver previously used to a petrol car and expecting a certain sluggishness in a diesel, its performance is still an eye-opener. The manufacturer's claimed 0 to 60 mph acceleration figure of 10.9 seconds is faster than many petrol-engined rivals, as is the top speed of 111mph, but it is in the middle range of acceleration that it really shows its best, the turbo boost coming in at just the right point to deal with those frustrating overtaking situations. The same effect gives it great flexibility in third gear around town.

The real joy of the car in town, however, is that despite the extra load space, it is only 20cm (about 8in) longer than the hatchback. So parking, especially with the help of the power-assisted steering that comes as standard on the Aura, is really no more difficult than it would be in a saloon. The only complaint is a slightly stiff gearchange, especially from third down to second and back into first after stopping in traffic.

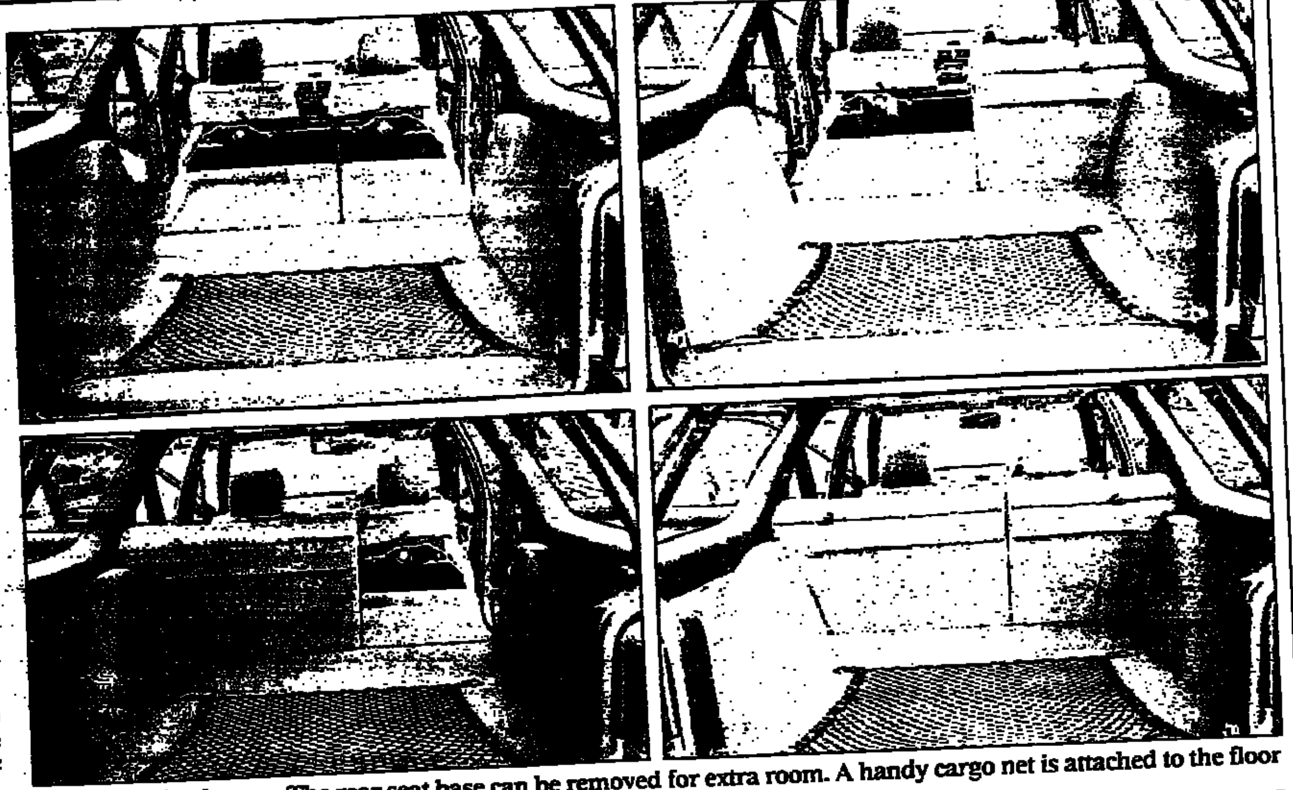
The makers claim an impressive figure of 64.2mpg at a constant 56mph. That is a theoretical standard, of course, but it seems reasonable in the light of figures in the high fifties on runs of more than 100 miles so far. The 39mpg urban-cycle figure also seems realistic.

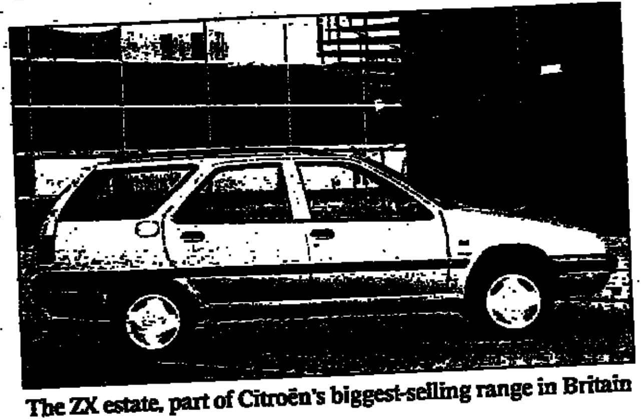
The Aura has electric front windows and sun roof and remote locking as standard, and lumbar support and height adjustment on the driver's seat, making the ideal driving position easy to hold.

But this is an estate, so what about load-carrying? If you want to carry a high chair, a pushchair, a sun lounger, two suitcases, a briefcase, a bag of nappies and baby food, a tent, three sleeping bags, a bag of toys, a picnic box and several bags of shopping and still have room inside for two adults and three children, one in a baby seat, this car will do it. For use, with the rear seats up there is one of those practical little touches which makes life a lot easier, a cargo net neatly fastened to the floor which will stop all those loose toys or awkward bits of shopping rattling around the boot. For security, there is a cover for the boot space.

But in an early attempt to increase the load capacity an extraordinary thing happened. In the course of fastening a universal bicycle-carrier to the rear hatch, a section of the top flange of the door, about the size of a matchbox, simply snapped off under tension from the clip of the webbing strap which holds the carrier in place. The carrier has been used successfully many times since with the clips fastened in a different position on the same flange, so it may have just been a peculiar weakness in one section of the plastic door.

Citroën's people said they had never heard of such a thing happening before and pointed out that their own bicycle carriers are of the roof-fixing variety. However, before the next instalment of this test we will give them a chance to inspect the damage.


The Aura's load space. The rear seat base can be removed for extra room. A handy cargo net is attached to the floor


The ZX estate, part of Citroën's biggest-selling range in Britain

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Transmission: five-speed manual gearbox
Performance: Max speed 111mph: 0-60 mph 11.9 seconds (*What Car? test*)
Economy: Constant 56mph, 64.2mpg; urban cycle, 39.2mpg (*Government figures*)
Load: Payload 515kg, volume with rear seats down 1580 litres (55.8cu ft)
Insurance group: 9

OTHERS

Ford Escort Ghia TD Estate: £14505; 90bhp; 0-60mph 11.2 seconds; payload 455kg, volume 1425 litres; urban cycle 38.2mpg
Vauxhall Astra 1.7 CDX Estate: £14715; 82bhp; 0-60mph 13.9 seconds; payload 457kg, volume 1630 litres; urban cycle 42.2mpg
VW Golf GL TDi: £14755; 90bhp; 0-60mph 13.4 seconds; payload n/a, volume 1425 litres; urban cycle 47.1mpg

Great days at Goodwood

Racing legends do battle again

One of the most spectacular displays of historic race cars in Britain for many years, from vintage Grand Prix machines to sports racers of all ages, is being gathered for the Goodwood Festival of Speed, which takes place on the weekend of June 24 and 25. The centrepiece of the event will be the re-creation of great racing battles, such as the 1993 Italian Grand Prix, the 1960s Le Mans contests between Ford, Ferrari and Porsche and the German Grand Prix of 1939. Among vehicles and drivers taking part will be Stirling Moss and Denis Jenkinson, reunited in the Mercedes-Benz 300SLR in which they won the 1955 Mille Miglia, John Surtees at the wheel of a 1930s Mercedes-Benz W154, no fewer than four Aston Martin DBR1s and a spectacular array of Porsches, including two of the rare 908/3 sports racers from the 1960s.

There will also be an astonishing 15 Ford GT40 of the kind that won Le Mans every year from 1966 to 1969. They will take part in a parade of historic Fords which includes a Lotus Cortina once driven by Jim Clark and the Escort RS1600 in which Hannu Mikkola has just won the London to Mexico anniversary rally.

The third such meeting on the West Sussex track, this promises to be the most elaborate yet and is expected to place the event firmly as a highlight of the growing British Classic Car season. Other features include the Cartier Style et Lux competition for coachbuilt cars, the Mulberry Challenge Trophy for sports tourers from the 1930s to the present day, a historic hill climb, a superb collection of 1950s motorcycles and flying displays by the Red Arrows and two Spitfires.

- *Ticket information: 01243 787766*

Win a VIP weekend at Goodwood

Today, *The Times*, with Ford, is offering a VIP weekend for two with tickets to the grandstand at the 1995 Goodwood Festival of Speed on June 24 and 25.

This celebration of motorsport history in Sussex will feature supercars, world championship motorcycles and one of the largest-ever gatherings of Ford GT40 models.

The weekend begins for the winner, and his or her companion, with delivery the day before of a top-of-the-range Scorpio, to drive to Goodwood.

There will be dinner on the Saturday at Ford's barbeque where other guests will include top rally drivers. After overnight accommodation in a nearby hotel, there is a picnic hamper lunch with champagne provided by Moet & Chandon. The Scorpio car will be collected again from the winner's home.

TO ENTER
Answer the following question:
What does the "40" stand for in Ford GT40? and phone 0891 771229 to give your answer.

First correct entry drawn will be the winner. Closing date: Thursday, June 15 1995. Calls charged at 39p per minute off-peak, 49p at other times. Entrants must be aged 21 and over. Usual Times competition rules apply. Full details on request.

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Kevin Eason reports on the different tests of the round-the-country competition

First round a success for all

Examiners are surprised at the many skills and high standards shown by the caring company-car drivers

THE TIMES
Lease Plan
Company Car Driver 1995

Eighteen drivers were put through their paces in Oxford this week in the first of six rounds of *The Times*-Lease Plan Company Car Driver of the Year competition. The standards were high and David Gaskell only won by a nose.

An industrial engineer with Pirelli Cables, he scored 164.5 points out of a possible 200, compared with the average for the day of 130. Second was Julian Head, a Pirelli colleague, who was awarded 162 points by examiners from Drive Tech training school, while Stephen Lark, from Future Electronics, gave chase with 159 points.

Both men now stand a chance of reaching the final in August at Silverstone. It was no easy passage. Apart from a written test, Drive Tech showed them a series of slides of road scenes from which contestants had to identify potential dangers.

"I found that very difficult indeed," Mr Gaskell said. "The driving was hard enough but the slides had me foxed a couple of times." He had to switch from the BMW 318i he normally drives for work to the 2-litre Nissan Primera SLX chosen as the test car. That meant a quick adjustment from the BMW's rear-wheel to the Nissan's front-wheel power and quick acceleration for the road course, plus manoeuvring against the clock.

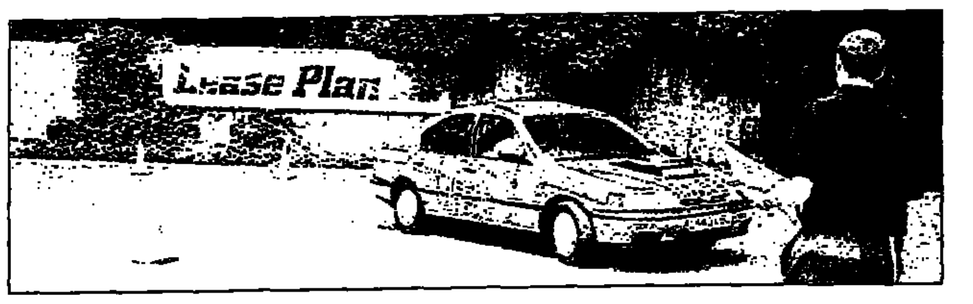
Not easy — and just to make it tougher, the cars were fitted with a bowl on the bonnet in which there was a ball. One inadvertent slip of the clutch, one jar too heavy on the brakes and the ball was bouncing down the course, causing lost time and points. Chris Howell, Drive Tech's founder, said: "We were pleasantly surprised by the standard of driving. Company car drivers suffer from this reputation as the people who carve you up on the road and have all the accidents but a competition like this proves that there are some terrific company car drivers who are courteous and safe."

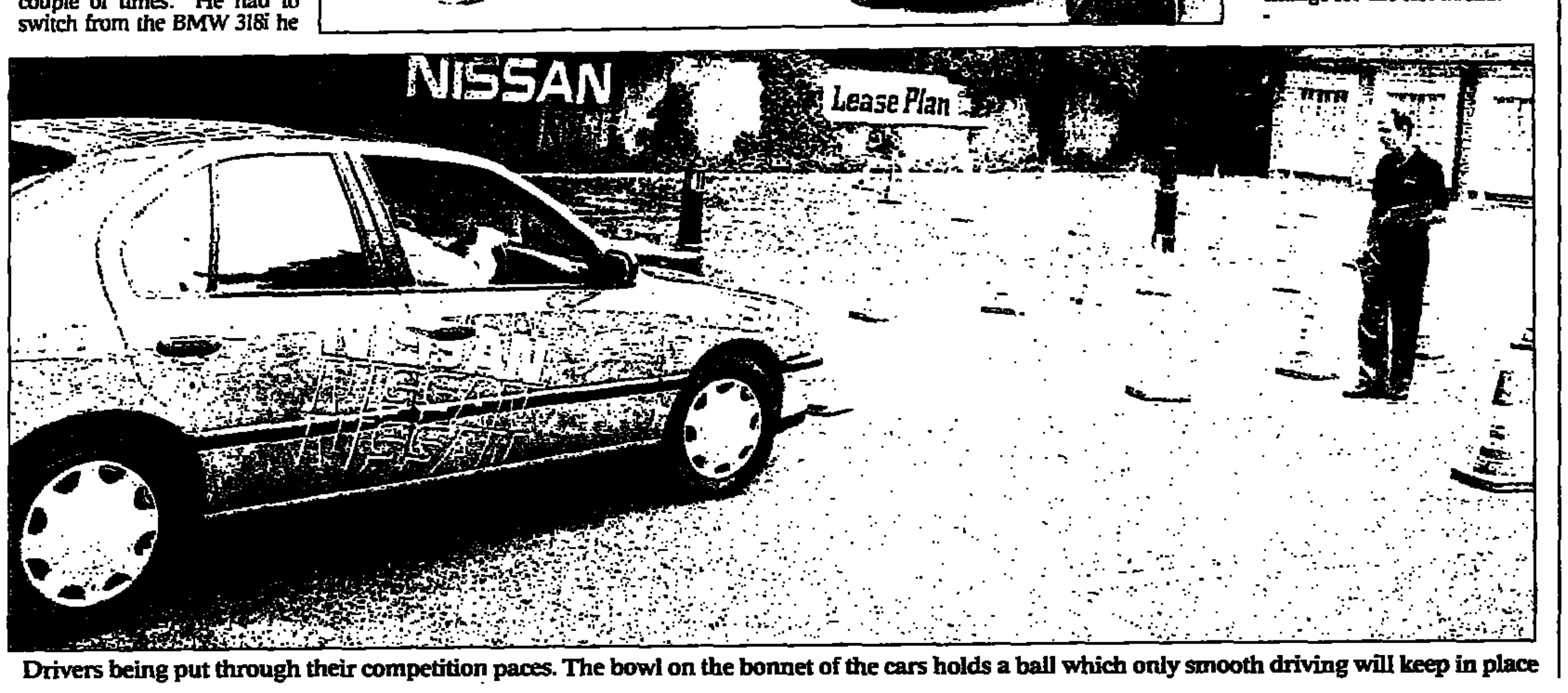
Just how important being safe and courteous is was underlined by the team from Unipart International, based at Cowley in Oxford. Peter Howells, Alan Kilham and Mark Simlett, who all work in Unipart's sales department, were encouraged to enter by their company.

"When we are on the road, we are ambassadors for Unipart, which has 1,300 company cars," said Mr Kilham. "If we have an accident caused by our carelessness and tell people we are from Unipart, it reflects badly not only on us but on our company too."

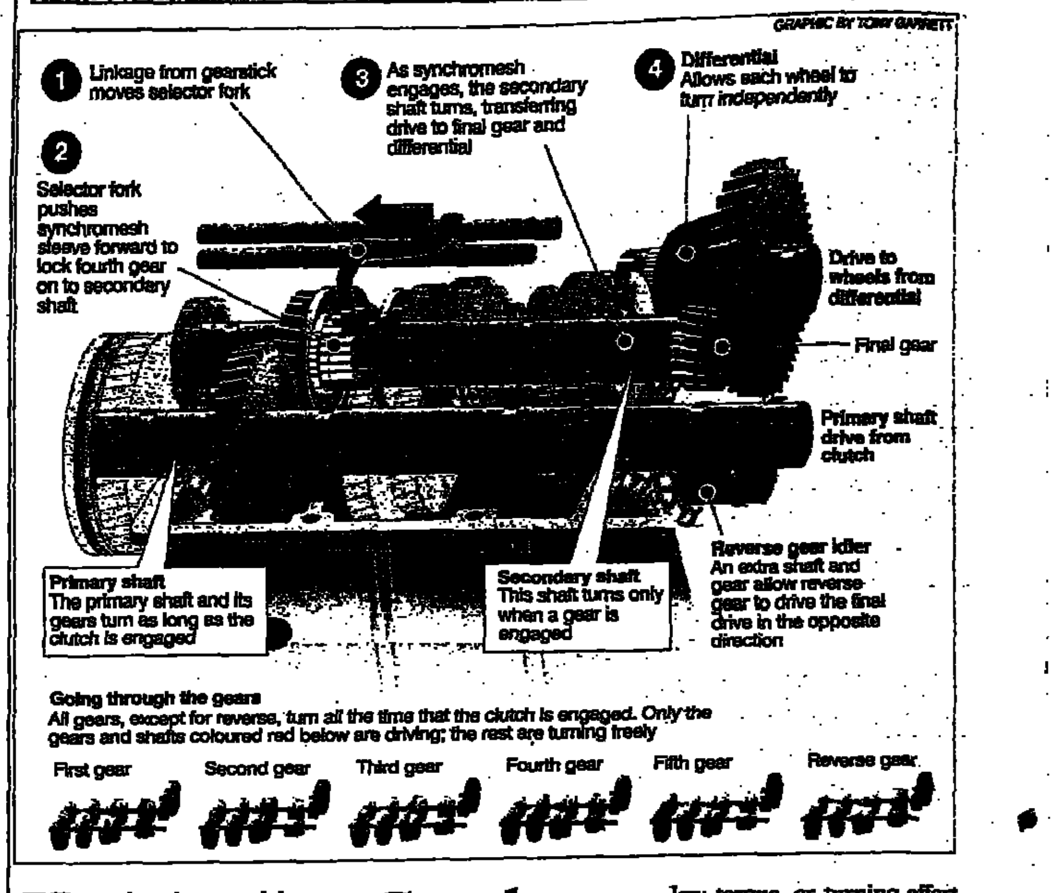
Mr Howells added: "Our company has recognised that the best workers are properly trained in every skill that they need — and that has to include good driving. If you are a poor driver, then you cost the business money through higher insurance premiums, accident damage and bad fuel consumption because your technique is wrong.

"Something like this is an investment for Unipart as well as for the three of us." *The Times* and Lease Plan agree, which is why we are sponsoring the search for the best company car driver in Britain. Next week, the contest moves to Nottingham and a new batch of almost two dozen drivers, who, even now, will be brushing up on their Highway Code and checking on the smoothness of their gear change for the test ahead.





Drivers being put through their competition paces. The bowl on the bonnet of the cars holds a ball which only smooth driving will keep in place


GRAPHIC BY TONY GARRETT
1 Linkage from gearstick moves selector fork
2 Selector fork pushes synchromesh sleeve forward to lock fourth gear on to secondary shaft
3 As synchromesh engages, the secondary shaft turns, transferring drive to final gear and differential
4 Differential Allows each wheel to turn independently
Drive to wheels from differential
Final gear
Primary shaft drive from clutch
Reverse gear idler An extra shaft and gear allow reverse gear to drive the final drive in the opposite direction
Primary shaft The primary shaft and its gears turn as long as the clutch is engaged
Secondary shaft This shaft turns only when a gear is engaged
Going through the gears
All gears, except for reverse, turn all the time that the clutch is engaged. Only the gears and shafts coloured red below are driving; the rest are turning freely
First gear
Second gear
Third gear
Fourth gear
Fifth gear
Reverse gear

Gearbox: delivering power to the wheels

THE gearbox is essential to match the power output from a car's engine to the needs of the motorist, *Vaughan Freeman writes*. Gears are sets of toothed wheels on shafts, that mesh. As one turns, it turns the other gear and thus the other shaft.

The manual gearbox consists of two main shafts, the input (primary) shaft delivering power from the engine via the clutch, and the output (secondary) shaft, which delivers power to the wheels. Each shaft is lined with the toothed cogs that, once the correct gear has been selected, pass power to the car's drive wheels.

The primary shaft turns all the time that the clutch is engaged. The secondary shaft turns only when a gear has been selected and engaged. However, to avoid crunching gears, synchromesh is used. This allows the gears on both shafts to be permanently meshed together, but on the secondary shaft the cogs spin freely until they are engaged.

When the driver changes gear, the gearstick moves a selector fork which locks the correct gear, spinning freely on the secondary shaft, in place with a toothed sliding collar, or sleeve.

To start from a standstill a car needs high torque (turning power) at low speed. Otherwise, to avoid stalling the engine, the clutch would need to be slipped until about 15mph was reached. Hills would also slow the car and cause a stall unless the driver constantly slipped the clutch. Even then below a certain speed the engine would stall.

The engines of most modern cars operate effectively within the range of 1,000 to 5,000 rpm, a range which produces low torque, or turning effort.

Use of the gearbox increases this turning effort of the engine. Gears work in the same way as levers. A long lever, moved a few feet at one end, allows a heavy load to be moved a few inches at the lever's other end. A larger gear being driven by a smaller gear rotates more slowly but with greater force. In first gear, the smallest cog or gear on the primary shaft is matched to the largest one on the output shaft. This delivers a high torque at low speed.

In top gear, typically a fifth gear on a modern car, the cog on the primary shaft from the engine is the same size as the cog on the output shaft, so that the wheels are driven at high speed but with weak torque.

Power from the drive shaft is delivered through the big final drive gear, linked to the differential, a secondary set of gears that allows the drive wheels to rotate at different speeds when the car corners.

For reverse, the drive power is routed through a third shaft that turns the power output the opposite way.

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90G 911 C2 Cpe White/Blue, FSH, Immob, 2 Owners, 44k £29,995
90H 928 GT Candy Apple Red/Pearl Leather, Full Lthr, CD, E/Seats+Mem, ESR, 38k £28,995
93K 928 S4 Auto Amazon Met/ Lt Grey Full Lthr, ESR, 15k ..£34,995
91J 911 C2 Cpe Slate Grey/ Class. Grey Lthr, ESR, 51k £32,995
92K 911 C4 Targa Black/Classic Grey, F/SH, 5 Seats, System/Alarm, 48k £33,995
90G 911 C4 Cabriolet Guards Red/Black Hide, CD, 28k £34,995
91H 911 C2 Cab Tip Violet Blue/ Light Grey Lthr, Blk Hood £36,995
92J 928 GTS Red/Grey £35,995
92K 911 C4 Cab, 14k £41,995
93K 911 C4 Cab Cobalt Blue Met/Classic Grey Lthr, Tear Drop Mirrors, 17" Rims £45,995
94L 911 3.6 Tbo [illegible]
Red Leather, Flat Nose ..... P.O.A.
92K BMW 325i Coupe [illegible]
Red/Black Hide, OBC [illegible]
91J RS Carrera [illegible]
91H Ferrari 348ts [illegible]
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190 E J Reg. 5 speed, silver, V/expensive alloys, spoiler, walnut int, alarm, Immaculate condition £10,995 ono. Tel 01372 720120/01322 558686

190E 1.8 Pearl Blue. FSH. Elec windows, elec s/roof, rad cass, alarm. Excellent condition. £9,800. Tel: 0191 744 9987

190E Almandine. 1990. H. Full A.M.G. ESR. EW. FSH. CD. alloys. £11,280. 01622 682041 (daytime)

190E 1.8 manual. '91J, carrera grey. EW, s/rf, alarm, rad cass. 44K mls. FMBSH. Immac. £10,750. 01564 797963.

190E 1.8 93L Jet black. a/bag. abs. 10,000mls. mint. £13,995. Wheelhouse 0115 970 5555.

200E Auto 16V L-reg. Almandine Red metallic. 1 owner FSH. 49,000 miles. Beautiful. Real value £16,495. 01483 303089.T

230 TE auto J reg. March '92. 26K mls. 1 owner. blueblack. FMBSH. alloys. ABS. rad/cass. ESR. armrest. air/con. EW. new tyres. Recent service. £19,950. 0171 924 2433.

230TE Auto. 91 J. 1 owner. 46,000 miles. FMBSH. £16,995. 01978 261631 T

280SE 1982. metallic silver. air conditioning & sun roof. £2,950. Tel: 01926 624083

280 E auto '89. 73,000 mls. Smoke silver. RHR. ABS. 2 owners. FMBSH. exceptional. £11,995. 01943 607265.

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280E Auto. 1992. J reg. 1 owner. 23,000 miles only. FSH. Beautiful. £19,995. 01483 303089.T

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300 E 24V Sportline. (H) Reg. 63,000 mls. FMBSH. Leather interior. air conditioning. fully loaded. Fabulous condition. £17,995. Tel: 01753 827047

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300SL 24V. 93 K. blue black / grey lthr. 19k. R/ST. 8h alloys 5T. £47,750. 01981 550441 Sun / 01432 277717 Wkdays t

300CE Coupe Auto 1992 Blue black. Cream leather. 1 lady owner. 25,000 miles only. Perfect thoughout. Full dealer facilities. Only £27,995. 01483 303089.T

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300SL 89 Deep blue/cream hide. rear seat. cruise++16,000mls. 1 owner. £26,995. Wheelhouse 0115 970 5555.

300SE K reg. Bornite / cream leather, 1 owner, 36k, FMBSH good spec, £37,950. Tel: 01265 26696 / 0850 358 058 T

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500 SEC C reg. blue metallic. pristine condition. £10,750 ono. 01262 376336 or 0378 668697

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500SL Nov 89 (new shape). blue/blck. every extra. 80k. FSH. £43,500. 01952 293344 (off. hrs)/ 01952 299555 (h)

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94M C280 ESPRIT White, Blue Cloth, 5 Spd Man, ESR, EW2, RHR ....[illegible]
94L C220 ELEGANCE Imperial Red, Cream Cloth, AT, ESR, EW ....[illegible]
94L C180 ELEGANCE Silver, Blue Cloth, Auto, Air Con, 8WV, Stereo/CD ....[illegible]
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Pencil power of the RCA pack

When it comes to car designers, Britain leads the field, says **Hilton Holloway**

We might lament the loss of Rover, Britain's remaining mass car-maker, to foreign ownership, but a visit to the current exhibition by transport design students at the Royal College of Art underlines this country's near world domination in automotive design.

Established as an offshoot of the industrial design degree in the late 1960s, the RCA's two-year MA course has been the launch pad for the careers of the majority of car designers worldwide.

This year's show is another celebration of the unending enthusiasm and innovation for wheeled transport that seems to find a spiritual home in the UK. The student projects vary from the inevitable sports cars to supersonic business jets, helicopters and to full-size motorcycle concept models. As is the tradition, the RCA course has a distinctly multicultural feel: this year's students come from Belgium, Germany and Korea, as well as the UK.

The maxim that "those who can do and those who can't teach" cannot be levelled at the tutors. The course leader, Ken Greenley, is the pen behind such exotica as the Aston Martin Virage and Bentley Continental R. The course also benefits from visits by past students, such as the Lotus design chief, Julian Thompson, and McLaren F1's designer, Peter Stevens.

A number of this year's student projects reflect the endless obsession of car designers to interpret visually what are known as "marque values". Jo Stenuit, a Belgian student, has chosen to reinterpret the 1970s Saab Sonnet sports car, by drawing on what he feels are the "essential elements of Saab".

His pretty model uses the inspiration of an "aircraft on the street" and Stenuit says that his design uses the "long side surfaces and horizontal body line" that define the classic Saab. The model also includes elements drawn from the old 900 and Saab aircraft.

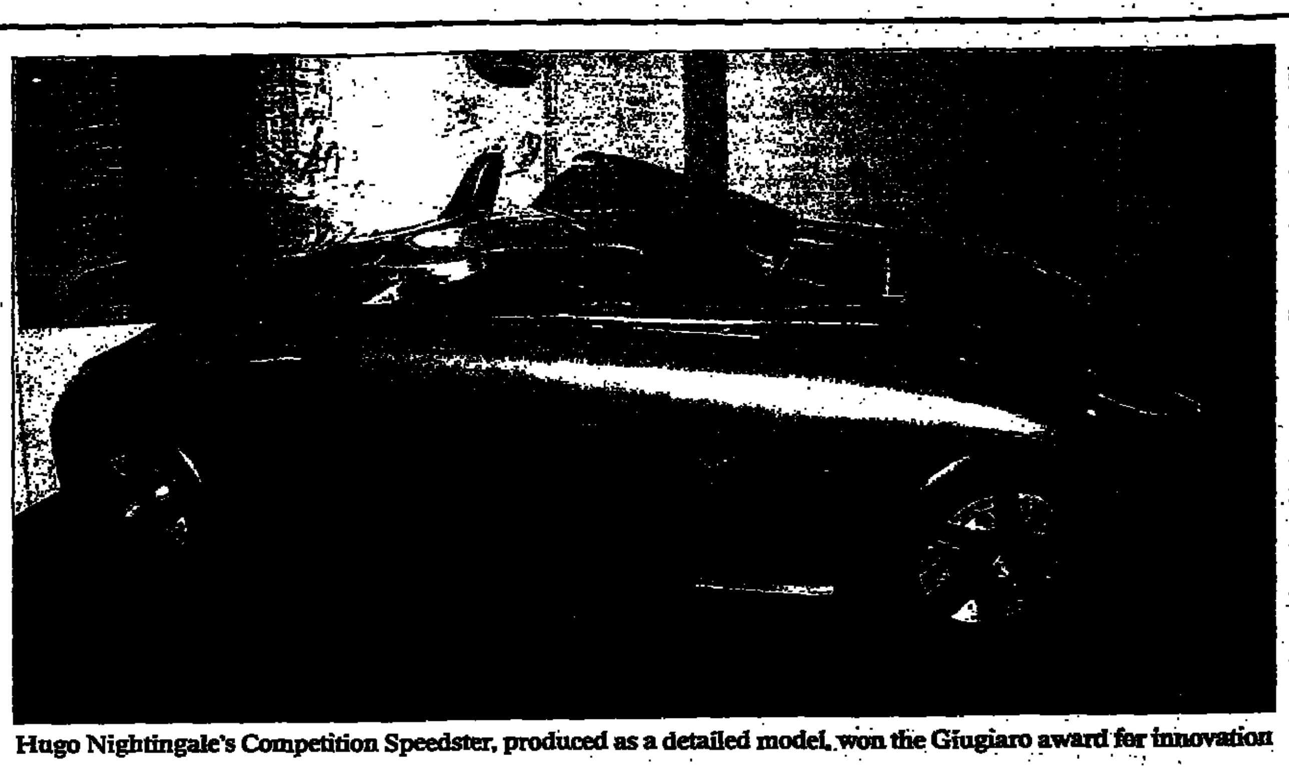
"I have a great passion for Saab, they have a special character and are very different. Unfortunately, I feel the new 900 doesn't have the visual qualities of a true Saab," says Stenuit.

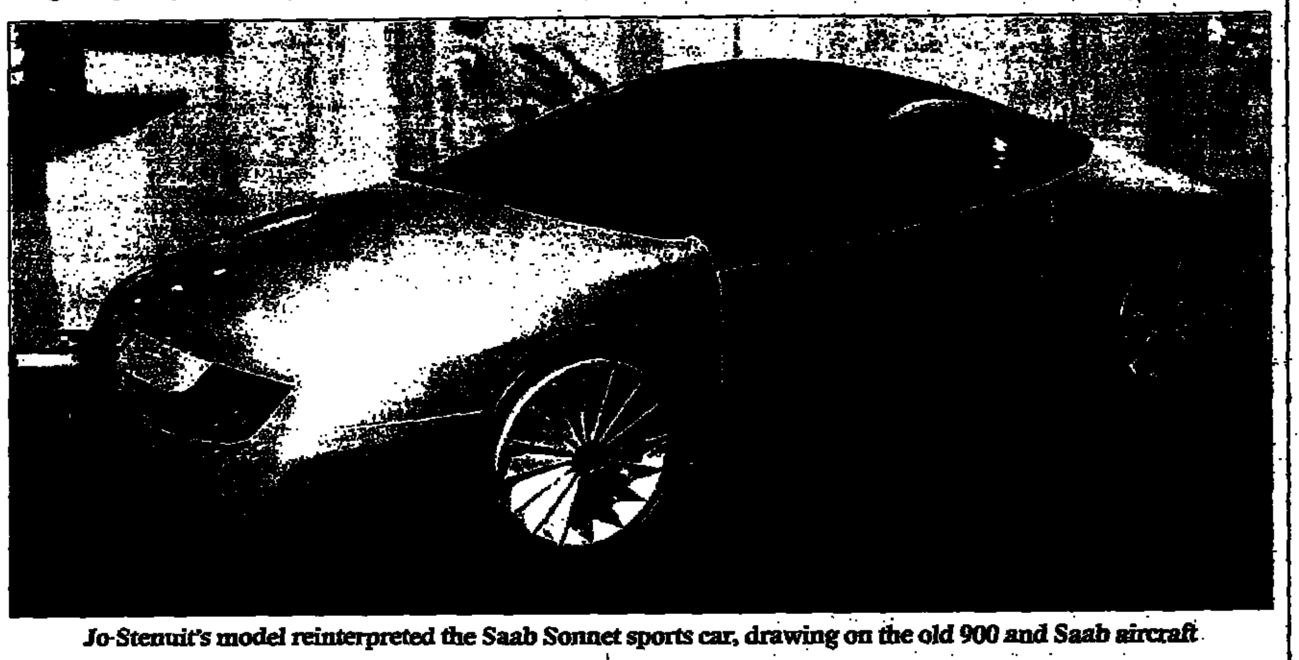
He also says he would love to work with Saab. His magnificent model could help to realise that ambition.

At the more conceptual end of the design spectrum is Hugo Nightingale's Competition Speedster. Produced as a huge and beautifully detailed model, it won Nightingale the Giugiaro award for innovation. The model also displays the emphasis the course puts on feasible adventure and the superb standard of model making. Nightingale's concept aims to "re-assess" the relationship between the driver and his investment and makes the structure an integral part of the interior and exterior design language. The Speedster has an open structure based around a carbon-fibre tub, and an exposed aluminium central frame. Nightingale has also designed an enormously clever fold-away roof system that can transform the car from an enclosed hardtop into an open-air car.

The winner of the RCA Triplex Safety Glass Award, and a cheque for £2,000, was Dan Walker. His winning design is a desert exploration vehicle, which would incorporate solar cells in the roof. Walker says his study of the biological survival technique of desert insects helped to influence the car's final shape.

● *The RCA show is open free until June 18 (closed on the Friday). Opening times are Monday to Friday 10am-8pm and Saturday and Sunday 10am-6pm.*


Hugo Nightingale's Competition Speedster, produced as a detailed model, won the Giugiaro award for innovation


Jo Stenuit's model reinterpreted the Saab Sonnet sports car, drawing on the old 900 and Saab aircraft

Q Is it true that the Government is considering tighter controls on drinking and driving?

A Yes. Brian Mawhinney, the Transport Secretary, is seeking further ways of reducing accidents. One option under review is to cut the amount of alcohol a driver can legally have in his blood.

Q What exactly does that mean?

A The present limit is 80 milligrams of alcohol per 100 millilitres of blood, equivalent to one-and-a-half pints of beer, three glasses of wine or three single measures of sprits. That limit could be lowered to 50mg, meaning that you could be breaking the law if you drive after drinking more than a single pint of beer.

Q What would happen if I was caught driving over the alcohol limit?

A You would receive an automatic 12-month ban and a fine. Tougher penalties, including a six-month prison sentence and a maximum £5,000 fine can be imposed in the worst cases. Don't forget, motor insurance will cost you a small fortune when you are free to drive again.

Q Would tougher laws bring us into line with other countries?

A They would give Britain one of the strictest regimes in the world. US limits range from 80mg to 100mg; most European countries share our present 80mg limit, but France imposes a 70mg limit while Greece, Holland and Portugal set 50mg limits.

Q Does this mean that those terrifying anti-drink/driving TV commercials are having no effect?

A Ministers claim that 15 years of campaigns have significantly changed drivers' drinking habits. Last year, the proportion that failed a breath test or refused to take one was 14 per cent, the lowest ever recorded.

A hazardous cross-country test for men and machines

CLAIRE EVANS files her second report from Land Rover's Camel Trophy in Central America

By the end of the third week of trekking through Central America, Mike Oxley and Rob Connor had travelled the most treacherous leg of the expedition taking their Land Rover Discovery along paths never before negotiated by a car. With the other 19 vehicles the pair followed the Ruta del Maya into El Salvador and Honduras before returning to Belize.

The convoy then headed for the ancient Mayan site of Copán in Honduras. Crossing the rock-strewn Jupalinger River took its toll on both people and machines. One vehicle snapped a half-shaft when it became wedged on a boulder and many others had to be pushed and winched off rocks.

The pressure on the teams intensified as driving conditions worsened on the stretch from Copán to Lake Izabal. Mike and Rob saved another vehicle from tumbling into a ravine when the earth beneath its tyres crumbled away. They used their Discovery's winch to secure the car, and inched it back onto the path with its own superwinch.

Now they had to back their way through the Old Spanish Road, a trade route used by Cortez and the Spanish conquistadors in the 1540s. The only traffic it was used to was locals on horseback. Mike and Rob joined the other competitors to dig a track through the tarantula-infested jungle.

The next stage was to continue north to Sebal. Mike and Rob joined forces with the teams from Greece, Holland and South Africa. A few days later the convoy passed a coach stranded in mud. Three Discoverys were tied together and towed the vehicle out with 20 team members pushing it from behind. The coach was taking a local military band to a fiesta and to show their thanks they played impromptu songs to the team.

Next on the agenda was a special task — to swim up the cholera-infested Mopan River carrying a wheel, two cases and a sand ladder. In spite of the searing heat, Mike and Rob pulled out all the stops and gained fourth place.

After 1700km, their exhilaration at reaching Xunantunich will be shortlived, because the final 30 hours of physically and mentally tasks start. After two weeks on the road this will be the toughest test of all.

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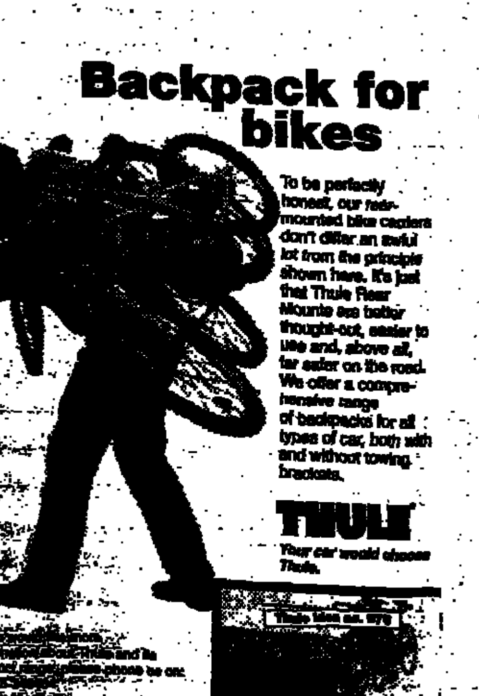

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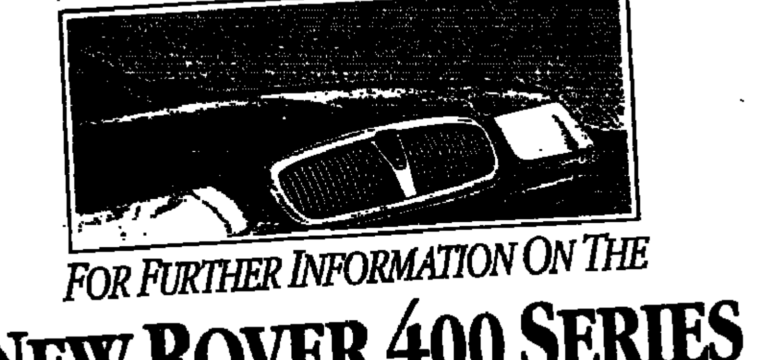

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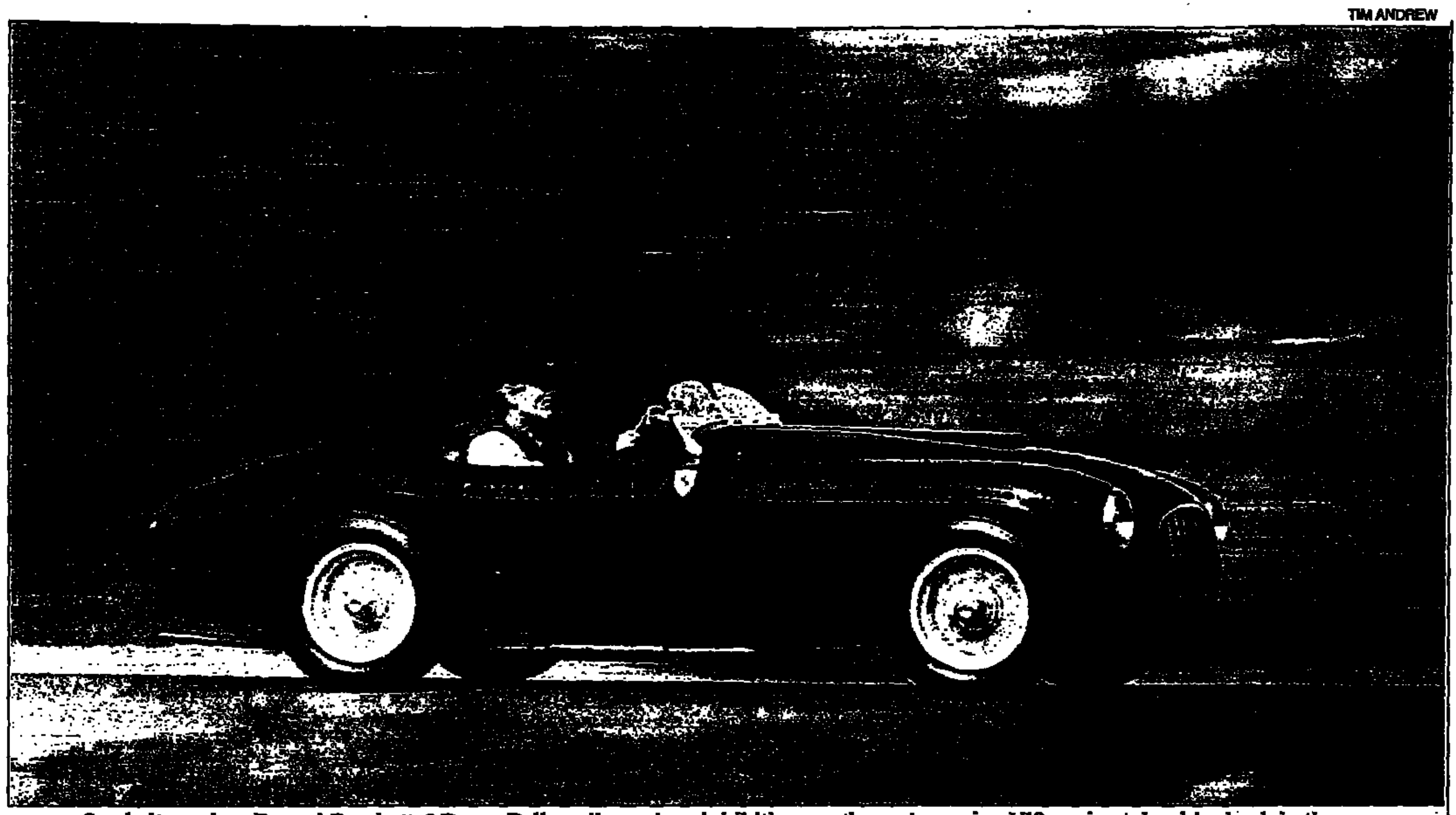


Seatbelts . . . in a Ferrari Barchetta? Roger Bell quells modern inhibitions as the car's roaring V12 engine takes him back in time

Doing that old Ferrari jitterbug

Clunking into gear, **Roger Bell** savours motoring at its most classic and wild in a rare 212 Barchetta

I had been warned about the hair-trigger throttle and vocal engine. Waaaang. The revs zing, the exhaust bellows. Ear muffs? Not likely. I try to adjust the seat, but it's fixed. Belts? No belts. Switches? Nothing to speak of. Pedals? My size tens are too big for the narrow footwell so I borrow some trainers. Fuel gauge? You shine a torch into the tank's throat. Speed? Best above 60mph to avert steering shake.

Enough questions. I dip the heavy clutch, clunk into first — top left, as in a modern five-speeder — and wave goodbye to the trusting owner. He hears the receding screech of straight-cut gears and twin-pipe snarl long after I'm out of sight in his 212 Barchetta, one of the oldest Ferraris around.

Historians are divided about the Ferrari marque's age. Sixty years ago, a twin-engined racing car built for Alfa Romeo by Ferrari clocked over 200mph to snatch a speed record from the Nazi-backed Auto Union company. It was Tazio Nuvolari's only success in the fearsome *bimotore*, said to be the first car to carry Enzo Ferrari's nameplates. But there are no diamond jubilee celebrations pinned to this tyre-shredding monster. Its lineage is questionable, its genes mutated. The same goes for the Ferrari-built, Fiat-engined Ventura 815 of 1940.

The first purebred Ferrari was the 125 made immediately after the war. Details of its audacious V12 engine were revealed in 1946, and the handful of 125 sportsracers made the next year mark the undisputed start of Ferrari production. What were these precursors of the Ferrari legend really like? Martin McGlone's lovely 212 would provide some answers.

Rasping down the A2, crouched behind the wood-rimmed steering wheel in a cockpit notable for its simplicity, there is no need for goggles, although my cap loosens around the legal speed limit, an easy canter in this 120mph car. The engine is so tractable there is little need to use the non-synchromesh gearbox. All the same, I shift indulgently, practising double de-clutching learnt on a Bedford lorry. National Service training was not wasted.

Performance is terrific. As with most subsequent Ferraris, the 212's mystique is rooted in what Enzo Ferrari called "the song of a V12". Savour the intoxicatingly rich sound effects and it's hard to dispute that emotion had as much to do with the choice of 12 cylinders as piston area.

Early development focused on the V12 engine: 125s became 159s (the figures denote the cubic capacity of each cylinder), then 166s and, by the beginning of the Fifties, 212s. What started as a 72bhp 1.5-litre V12 quickly evolved into a 180bhp 2.6. Even bigger, more powerful derivatives were to follow.

Several *carrozzerie*, including Farina, Ghia, Bertone and Zagato, clothed these early race-bred Ferraris. The prettiest and most popular, though, was Touring's Barchetta (little boat), a name recently resurrected by Fiat, Ferrari's owners, for the Punto-based sports car. Martin McGlone's 212 became a Barchetta — the inspiration for the AC Ace — after its original Abbot-made body had been scrapped as unworthy. Enzo Ferrari himself rebodied several early cars, so there's a precedent for the *alter ego* drag.

Once in rural Kent, the Barchetta betrays its age with a stiff and jerky ride. It's also physically demanding. Apart from the heavy clutch and tricky gears, the all-drum brakes lack servo assistance, never mind the bite of modern discs.

Parking is hard work and U-turns are best avoided. Worse still is the innate steering judder — cured since my drive, it seems, by fitting a modern steering damper.

In the early Fifties, the term "roadholding" still had less to do with tyre adhesion than maintaining contact with terra firma. Though the 212 has independent front suspension, it jitterbugs on bumpy corners and its skinny tyres relinquish grip easily. Ironically, there lies the Barchetta's great appeal. Its limitations demand skills rendered unnecessary by modern technology. To drive it well is to be richly rewarded. Singing ears, simmering feet and aching muscles are evocative reminders of a memorable drive.

So it's true: the Ferrari magic is ingrained. It was there from the birth of a fabulous engine. Enzo Ferrari was no engineer. A competent racing driver perhaps, certainly a lecherous autocrat and manipulator. His great achievement was to get puppets — among them Gioachimo Colombo, father of the first V12 — to indulge a ruthless quest for speed and racing success. It shows in almost every car that bears the name of the man once revered in Italy almost as much as the Pope.

Prancing horse from across the Atlantic

Helen Mound compares a muscle car with a VW coupé

Volkswagen's Corrado VR6, probably Europe's best coupé, costs £21,199; the new Ford Mustang GT, America's bestselling coupé, complete with massive 5-litre V8 engine, air-conditioning, electric seat adjustments and a superb stereo, costs $19,160 (about £12,500). Motorists on the other side of the Atlantic certainly seem to get a better deal.

The American driver spent an average of $20,000 on a new car last year. In Britain, the figure is a little less, but Americans get all possible comforts as standard, and powerful engines for much less money. We get excited if our car has a 2-litre engine. In America, if your car has anything less than a 3.8-litre V6, you may worry what the neighbours will think.

In the Fifties and Sixties, America's gleaming finned and chromed creations outsized and out-lavished anything Europe could produce.

However, though American consumers are content with a motoring world consisting of size, straight-line performance, and piles of luxury equipment, on this side of the Atlantic we demand a little more. In Europe we expect high levels of automotive refinement and quality, which explains why marques such as BMW are so coveted in the United States.

So though the Ford Mustang GT is a superb performer — its acceleration is breathtaking and the engine's roar stirs the blood — it suffers from a cheap-looking interior of poor quality plastic and cloth. The ashtray is a nasty bit of tin in the centre console and the glovebox looks flimsy.

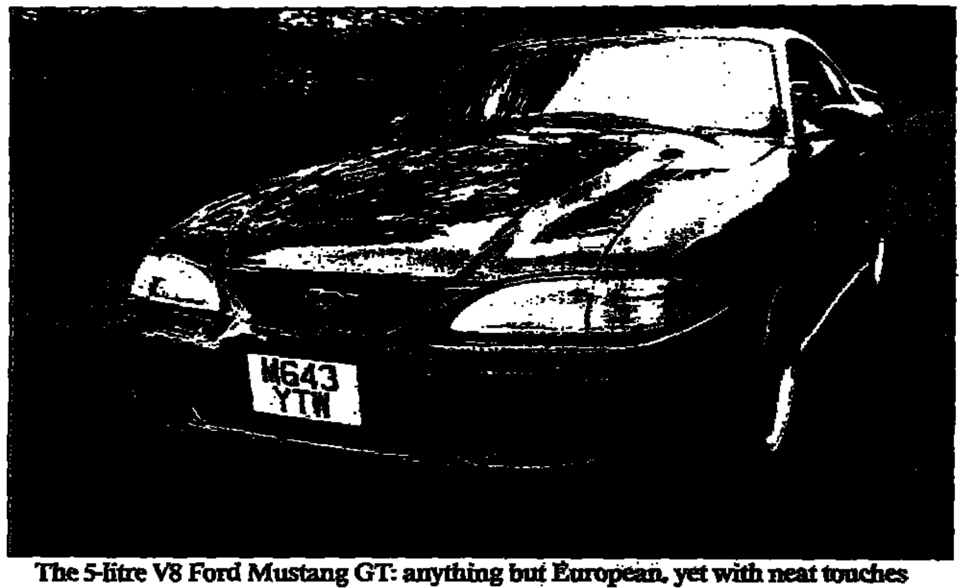
Then there's that engine, a cast-iron beast. It sounds glorious, but it's something of a dinosaur in the engineering world. The Corrado's compact 2.9-litre engine is capable of similar performance (top speed 140mph, 0-60mph 6.7 seconds) and can still manage 22mpg as against the Mustang's 18mpg.

But the Mustang is built to suit its environment. It is at home on America's endlessly long straight roads, where speed limits are strict (between 55 and 65mph) and fuel is cheap (about $1.20 — 75p per US gallon). British drivers need cars that can cruise at higher speeds (maximum, 70mph), drink less of our costly fuel and cope with more twisting roads.

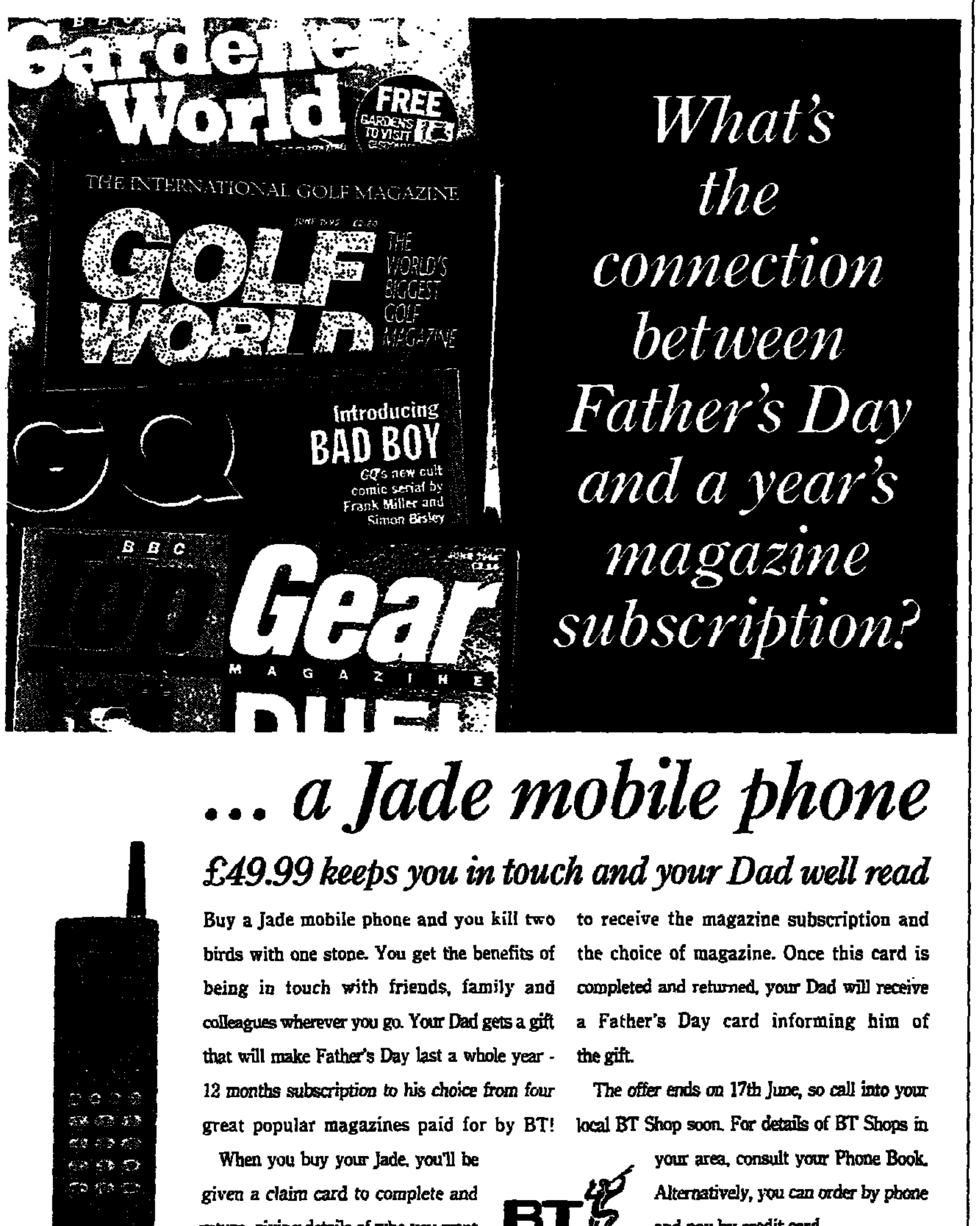
Which is something that makes the Mustang feel out of place on British roads; like most American cars, it does not corner as well as European cars. Its soft suspension makes the car wallow. On both sides of the Atlantic, however, most motorists don't rate comfort and economy above performance. American cars don't make the grade in the economy stakes — but they make up for it in comfort.

The Mustang's super-efficient air-conditioning system chills the cabin in less than five seconds, and there are thoughtful touches such as the dedicated portable phone socket. The controls on the key fob are a stroke of genius; you get a button to open the boot, a panic button to lock the car and, for urban security, a button that needs one touch to unlock the driver's door and two to unlock the passenger's.

The fact that the Mustang's engine is rather antiquated, that the interior is not high-quality and that it lacks the handling of a European coupé probably would not bother many Britons; especially if it sold here for only £12,000. Dream on.



The 5-litre V8 Ford Mustang GT: anything but European, yet with neat touches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Marcel Berlins on the new Sarah Dunant

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Gear up for the start of the coarse fishing season

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Colour and scent all year round in the glasshouse

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WEEKEND

THE TIMES SATURDAY JUNE 10 1995

TO LORD'S WITH LOVE – AND A HAMPER

By Tunku Varadarajan

At no other ground is the light so tautly drawn; nowhere else is there green of such deep and clenched perfection; and in no other place where cricket is played is the air as flecked with feat and fable. That is why I love Lord's.

I loved Lord's early, before I learnt to love most other things. As a small boy at boarding school in the Rajasthan desert in northwest India, with transistor pressed to small left ear, I heard John Arlott speak — and Brian Johnston, too — of the sloping ground, and of old Father Time with his scythe and wicket.

I moved to England in 1979, and in the years since — spent first as sloppy London schoolboy, then at university down the M40, and lastly as settled Anglophile "incomer" — I have missed the Lord's Test match only once, in 1991. Yet even then, on holiday in Guyana, I kept in touch with St John's Wood by sharing shortwave radio and rum with men who loved Lord's and its game almost as much as I do. "Lord's is where even the baddest cricket look full and sweet," said a man called Bacchus in a bar in Charity, on the Essequibo coast. He may never have been to Lord's, his grammar may have been toasted on some eccentric flame, but there was a truth in the tidy Guyanese compliment, to which I clinked my glass of the best Five Star.

Now, as Michael Atherton's men make white-flannelled war against Richie Richardson's West Indians at Headingley, I prepare myself once more for a pilgrimage to Lord's, where the summer's next and most important Test match will soon be played.

"The Tavern is noisy and vernacular," wrote Cardus in his *English Cricket*, in 1945, "with London spread outside." The Pavilion may no longer be "a chapter out of Galsworthy", but the place boasts still a cavalcade of English character. Preparing to watch cricket at a venue such as this is a taxing examination of the senses and, as with all examinations, the student is advised to ready himself beforehand. Some of us need no such counsel: guided by instincts which kindle themselves awake at the merest hint of a Test match, the mind surrenders to the sweetest tension. As a boy, I spent many nights before a match — sometimes five or six — in a sleepless and fragile accounting of possibilities. Would Ajit Wadekar win the toss? Would Gavaskar survive Andy Roberts's opening spell? Please, please, let Chandrasekhar be fit to baffle the Englishmen with his googlies and top-spinners and leg-breaks. If only Bedi could get Tony Greig early with his arm ball. Let it not rain; whatever happens, let it not rain.

Older now, I still cannot sleep or wake or work as gently as I would like in the days before a Test match. A vivid series of images, shots, wickets and shouts takes over every idle moment, as if from the Rev Cotton's *Cricket* song: *Here's guarding and catching, and throwing and tossing, And bowling and striking, and running and crossing* . . . Test cricket's pace and style may have altered, and

Continued on page 3, col 1

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CHOICE

Planning to see a show or a film, an exhibition or a concert? *The Times* critics select the best entertainment

FILMS

Geoff Brown

ED WOOD (15): Tim Burton's wonderful film depicts the crazy life of the film director Edward D. Wood Jr (Johnny Depp). Buffs will love the re-creation of Wood's Z-grade follies of the 1950s. Non-buffs may be mystified at first, but the hero's optimism in the face of his own lack of talent, and his devotion to the washed-up horror actor Bela Lugosi, give the film a strong emotional charge. Martin Landau's impersonation of Lugosi is alone worth the ticket price.
Clapham Picture House (0171-498 3323); **Lumiere** (0171-836 0691); **MGM Haymarket** (0171-839 1527); **Odeon Swiss Cottage** (01426 914098); **UCI Whiteleys** ♿ (0171-792 3332).

SIX DEGREES OF SEPARATION (15): Hats off to a film that entertains, looks elegant, never mangles its distinguished source (the play by John Guare), and gives film audiences that rare commodity: something to think about. As on Broadway and the Royal Court stage, Stockard Channing shines in the role of Ouisa, the smart New Yorker who bears the brunt of the upheaval caused by a smooth-talking imposter claiming to be Sidney Poitier's son. The director, Fred Schepisi, skilfully orchestrates the cut and thrust of comedy, pathos and philosophical debate; and if the imposter (Will Smith) loses some mystery as the play is opened out, there is compensation in the camera's whirlwind tour of New York's high and low life. With Donald Sutherland.
Barbican ♿ (0171-638 8891); **Clapham Picture House** (0171-498 3323); **MGMs: Fulham Road** ♿ (0171-370 2636). **Haymarket** (0171-839 1527); **UCI Whiteleys** ♿ (0171-792 3332).

● *More films, page 6.*

Channing and Sutherland in *Six Degrees of Separation*

JAZZ

Clive Davis

CHARLES MCPHERSON: When Clint Eastwood was looking for a musician to perform the incidental music in *Bird*, his film homage to Charlie Parker, his choice fell upon the alto saxophonist Charles McPherson. In contrast to some Parker disciples McPherson always pays attention to tone quality, even at maximum velocity. A Missourian who came out of the gritty southwestern tradition, he enjoyed a long association with another seminal figure, Charles Mingus, and more recently has been one of the soloists in Wynton Marsalis's repertory concerts at the Lincoln Center in New York.
The Bear Hotel, Bearwood Road, Birmingham (0121-429 1184). Mon 12; **Town Hall**, Imperial Sq, Cheltenham ♿ (01242 523690). Tues 13.

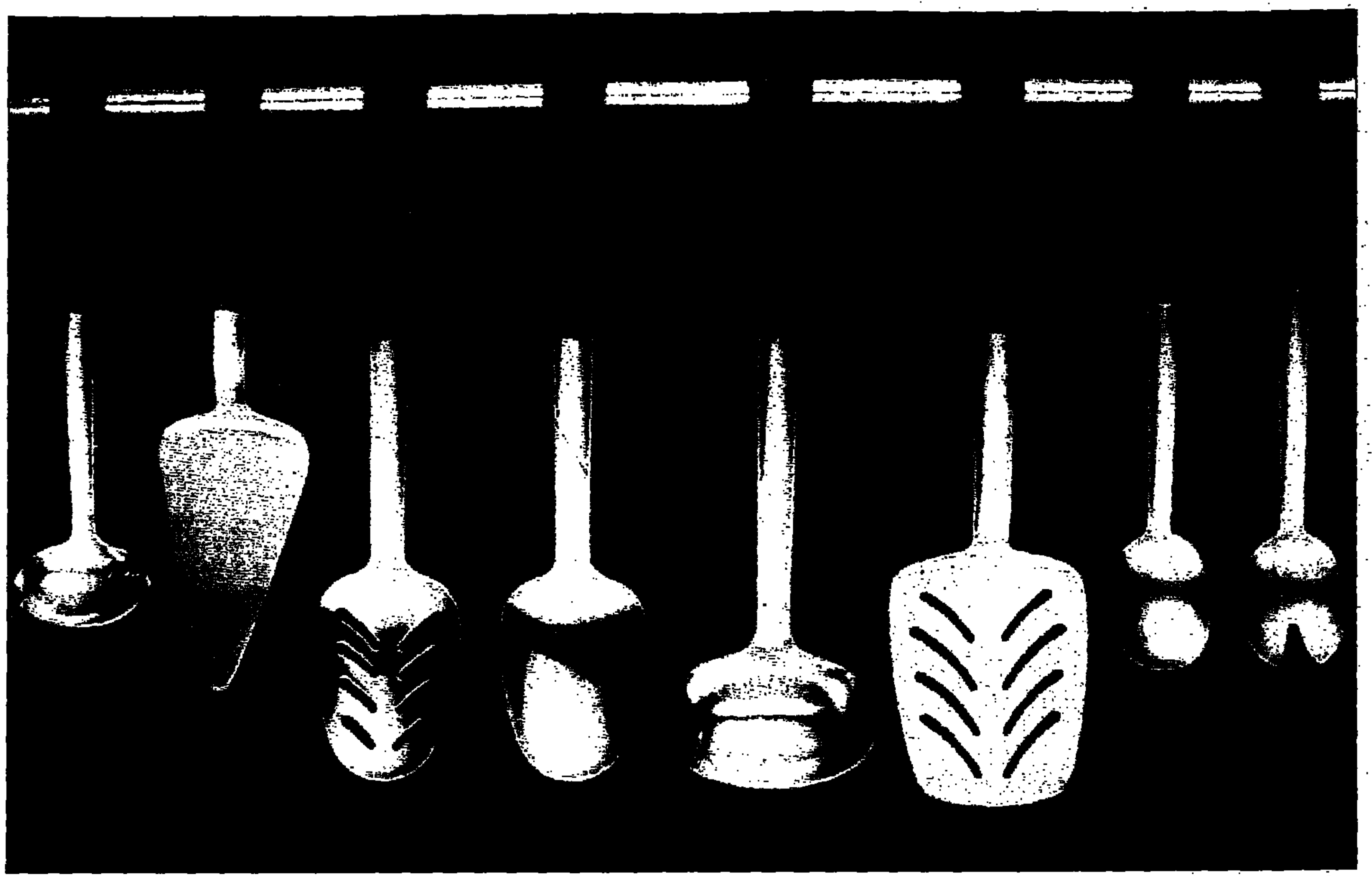
LENNY WHITE: The drummer with Chick Corea's gee-whiz crossover band Return To Forever back in the 1970s, Lenny White has continued to straddle jazz and contemporary chart trends, though he is still capable of playing bristling, straight-ahead bop. He will be giving a drum clinic during the day, then jamming with a band that features the powerful tenorman Jean Toussaint, and the high-octane pianist Julian Joseph.
Blue Note, Hoxton Sq, London N1 (0171-729 8440). Tues 13, 8pm.

CLASSICAL

Richard Morrison

ALDEBURGH FESTIVAL: Lots of 20th-century music today with a Nicholas Maw 60th birthday concert this morning (Jubilee Hall, 11am) and a programme of Knussen, Lindberg and Britten's *Spring Symphony* from the BBC Symphony Orchestra tonight (Snape Maltings, 8pm). Tomorrow afternoon the London Sinfonietta plays more Lindberg and Knussen, including Adès, Nancarrow and Stravinsky; Felicity Lott is in recital tomorrow evening. Highlights of the week ahead include a splendid Purcell and Britten recital on Tuesday, featuring Philip Langridge and David Thomas; and a superb programme (Sat 17, Snape Maltings, 7.30pm) of music that might have influenced Britten when he was writing *Peter Grimes*.
Aldeburgh Festival (01728 453543), until June 25.

NEW YORK, NEW YORK: Kurt Masur, who conducted the Leipzig Gewandhaus decently enough for 20 years, has virtually been reborn late in his career as the music director of the New York Philharmonic. He is a superb orchestral trainer and, in the meaty Austro-German masterpieces at least, a powerful, if old-fashioned interpreter. For its Festival Hall visit the NYPO plays to his strengths with Beethoven's *Eroica Symphony* and Strauss's *Metamorphosen*.
Festival Hall, South Bank, London SE1 (0171-928 8800). Fri 16, 7.30pm.


Le Buffet kitchen utensils in pressed stainless steel, with moulded-on plastic handles: on display at the Robert Welch retrospective in Cheltenham — see Museums (below left)

MUSEUMS

John Russell Taylor

THE GREAT COURT: One of the biggest problems facing the British Museum at the end of the millennium is how to preserve and make the best use of a classic building as requirements change, sometimes radically. The British Museum's millennium project is to transform the central court, into the middle of which the old domed Reading Room was dropped in 1857, leaving visitors to the building unaware of the space originally around it. Sir Norman Foster has devised a scheme for opening it up, encasing the Reading Room with an elliptical building as a Centre for Education, and covering the whole with a translucent roof. These ideas are vividly brought to life in this exhibition with models, drawings and computer-animation.
The British Museum, Great Russell Street, London WC1 (0171-636 1555). Mon-Sat, 10am-5pm; Sun, 2.30-6pm, until July 30. ♿

ROBERT WELCH: Anyone who has ever played the tourist in Chipping Campden will probably have visited Robert Welch's silversmithing workshop/showroom there. But apart from the artist/craftsman aspect of his work, many know his industrial designs, particularly the Kitchen Devil range of kitchen knives, without being aware who is responsible for them. This retrospective includes more than 200 objects, as well as models, drawings and photographs, and gives a very clear idea why Welch is one of Britain's leading designers.
Cheltenham Art Gallery and Museum, Clarence Street, Cheltenham (01242 237431). Mon-Sat, 10am-5.30pm, until August 5. ♿

GALLERIES

Richard Cork

IMMENDORFF AND RODGER: A dramatically contrasted double bill at the Barbican Art Gallery, where the downstairs space is galvanised by fantastical paintings by Jorg Immendorff. Two years ago, he became fascinated by Hogarth's *The Rake's Progress*, and set about creating his own version of the story, casting himself as the Rake in garish make-up and Gossamer negligee. This bi-sexual apparition prances through canvases crammed with other, equally bizarre figures. Just as Hogarth recommended, they all appear to be acting on stage, and the best canvases convey a hallucinatory power. Upstairs, George Rodger's long career as a leading photojournalist is far more sober. Refusing to indulge in flashy camera angles and technical tricks, this modest but stubborn man witnessed the Second World War on many fronts.

1948 South Africa: a study of tribal life by George Rodger

His photographs of Belsen concentration camp are very distressing. After the war Rodger moved to Africa. Here his strong and graceful studies of tribal life can be ranked among his finest work.
Barbican Art Gallery, Silk Street, London EC2 (0171-638 4141), until August 28. ♿

LANDSCAPES OF FRANCE: Refusing to serve up an over-familiar helping of Impressionism, selector John House shows Monet and his friends in a bracing new light. This enjoyable Hayward Gallery survey starts with Impressionism's rivals — the Salon painters who basked in official admiration and state patronage. But there are connections between the two camps. Intriguing new names can be discovered among the Salon pictures, but the best art was created by the men and women who banded together in defiance of government-approved conventions.
Hayward Gallery, South Bank Centre, London SE1 (0171-928 3144), until August 28. ♿

DANCE

John Percival

TURNING WORLD: This is the final week of London's stimulating festival of dance from abroad. Sasha Waltz from Berlin shows the problems posed by breakfast and morning ablutions for four people sharing a house (Lilian Baylis, tonight). At The Place, Leine and Robana from Amsterdam investigate what human movement can do in *The Circle Effect* tonight, followed on Tuesday and Wednesday by the Alias Company from Geneva, whose *Moving A Perhaps* seeks ecstasy in the rain. Finally, also at The Place, Leigh Warren and Dancers arrive from Adelaide to dance *Lure and Bait*, created by Warren who is remembered as a soloist with the Rambert and Netherlands dance companies.
Lilian Baylis Theatre at Sadler's Wells, Rosebery Avenue, London EC1 ♿ (0171-713 6000), 7.45pm; **The Place Theatre**, Dukes Road, London WC1 (0171-387 0031), 8pm.

NOIJECT: Saburo Teshigawara, a sculptor turned choreographer, brings his company, Karas, back to London in the latest of his provocatively individual shows. The title, *Noiject*, comes from combining the words "noise" and "object" — which apparently is exactly what happens on stage, with a crashing soundtrack and huge levers which the dancers manipulate to startling effect. In the middle of the performance, Teshigawara promises to dance on a mass of broken lightbulbs. We shouldn't be bored.
Queen Elizabeth Hall, South Bank, London SE1 (0171-928 8800), Fri 16, Sat 17, 7.45pm. ♿

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David Sinclair

FLEADH 1995: London's annual celebration of Celtic (and related) music gets bigger each year, but are there enough acts to go round? Prompting a sense of déjà vu at this year's event will be the Saw Doctors, Kirsty MacColl, Shane MacGowan, the Frames, the Dubliners, Dervish, Van Morrison, Capercaillie, Christie Hennessy and Big Geraniums. Others, such as Big Country, John Martyn, Brian Kennedy and non-Celtic headliners the Beautiful South have all toured extensively in recent months. But lending a fresh sense of occasion will be ALT (Tim Finn, Liam O'Maonlai and Andy White), the Irish pop sensation Boyzone and Sinéad O'Connor, who will be singing songs from last year's *Universal Mother* album.
Finsbury Park, London N4 (0171-344 0044), today, noon-11pm.

MIKE AND THE MECHANICS: The easy-listening rock combo, founded by Mike Rutherford as a diversion from his work with Genesis, has taken on a life of its own. With a fourth hit album, *Beggar On A Beach Of Gold*, now under their collective belt, Mike and the Mechanics — Rutherford, Paul Carrack, Paul Young and Peter Van Hooke — continue to negotiate a safe passage through the placid waters of the middle-aged, rock 'n' roll mainstream.
Guildhall, Portsmouth (01705 824355), June 14; **Royal Concert Hall**, Nottingham ♿ (0115 948 2626), June 15; **Bournemouth International Centre** ♿ (01202 297297), June 18; **Apollo**, Oxford ♿ (01865 244544), June 20; **Wolverhampton Civic Hall** ♿ (01902 312030), June 21; **Colston Hall**, Bristol ♿ (0117 922 3686), July 11; **Plymouth Pavilions** ♿ (01752 229922), July 12; **Dome**, Brighton ♿ (01273 709709), July 13; **Island**, Ilford ♿ (0181-514 4400), July 17; **Colosseum**, Watford ♿ (01923 445000), July 19; **Sands Centre**, Carlisle ♿ (01228 25222), July 24; **Assembly Rooms**, Derby ♿ (01332 255800), July 25.

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Benedict Nightingale

RICHARD II: What next, Donald Sinden as Ophelia? As it happens, the problems with Fiona Shaw's Richard have less to do with her gender, where you will find it easy to suspend belief, than with her interpretation of an admittedly weak king as an insecure, thumb-sucking tot. Nevertheless, hers is a bold, riveting performance and Deborah Warner's production is strong, fluent and unfussy.
Cottesloe, National Theatre, South Bank, London SE1 (0171-928 2252). Evenings: today, Mon 12 to Wed 14, 7.15pm; matinées: today, Wed 14, 2pm. Continues in repertoire. ♿

Fiona Shaw gives a riveting performance as Richard II

MEASURE FOR MEASURE: Steven Pimlott's ambitious production is mainly notable for the excellent actor playing the sexually repressed ruler, Angelo. Alex Jennings finds a dizzying anti-gravity inside his own grave, prim exterior, and becomes a man appalled by his destructiveness. Shakespeare's play runs in parallel with another 17th-century warning of the dangers of excessive self-discipline, John Ford's *Broken Heart* at the Pit.
Barbican, Barbican Centre, Silk Street, London EC2 (0171-638 8891). Evenings: Wed 14, Thur 15, 7.15 pm; matinée: Thur 15, 2pm. Continues in repertoire. ♿

● *More theatre, page 6.*

[illegible]

Rodney Milnes

BILLY BUDD: Last two chances to catch Francesca Zambello's unsparing production of Britten's equally unsparing dissection of certain patterns in English social behaviour: how apt that E.M. Forster should have been co-librettist of an opera that shows the tragedy of people never connecting, mainly because it requires too much effort. Zambello's clean staging is an ideal frame for a solid ensemble performance, led by John Tomlinson's adamantine Claggart and Graham Clark's properly tormented Vere. Peter Coleman-Wright, the English National Opera's wholesome Budd, takes over in the title role.
Royal Opera House, Bow St, London WC2 (0171-304 4000). Tues 13, Thur 15, 7.30pm. ♿

STIFFELIO: The Royal Opera's Verdi Festival, set to dominate Bow Street for the next six weeks, is officially launched on Monday with a revival of Elijah Moshinsky's staging of what was once a "problem" piece — at least in Italy, where the idea of a married priest publicly forgiving his wife's adultery was, to say the very least, alien. Now we see it as one of the composer's most powerful and personal philosophical statements, full of profoundly stirring music. Catherine Malfitano returns to the role of the tormented wife, with José Cura as her husband and Anthony Michaels-Moore as her father. Sir Edward Downes conducts.
Royal Opera House, Bow St, London WC2 (0171-304 4000). Mon 12, Fri 16, 7.30pm. ♿

Moving experience for a small piece of England

Ruth Gledhill bids farewell to a chapel about to be reborn in the USA

IF some do not have the faith to move mountains, they at least have enough to move churches. Take some Americans, who are buying Sproxton Methodist Church in Leicestershire, dismantling it stone by stone and relocating it to a corner of their foreign field. We were at the farewell wake in Sproxton, where this petite and charming church has nestled between country cottages for 130 years, and where it was spotted by officials from an American university who descended "tornado-like" on Britain seeking a suitable chapel to whisk back to their campus in Kansas. Our service sheets, as yellow as corn and depicting a setting sun, billed the church as "preserved by power divine", which indeed it has been, because the building, closed for worship five years ago after the congregation dwindled to six, faced an uncertain future.

Minister Joe Goodridge welcomed his congregation of 200, asking us "to give thanks for the wonderful service this place has rendered over many generations". His wife, Devanesie, read from Psalm 84: "How amiable are thy tabernacles O Lord of Hosts, my soul longeth, yea even fainteth, for the courts of the Lord. My heart and my flesh crieth out for the living God."

Listening intently at the front sat Hilda Sentance, 92, the chapel's organist for 55 years and one-time Sunday school teacher. "It is sad that it has got to go out of the country because it has so many precious memories," she said.

Using the analogy of Israel's Temple, itself destroyed and rebuilt, Mr Goodridge preached on holiness. "Within the Temple there was the holy place, and beyond it the inner sanctuary, the Holy of Holies, where we are told no one went except the holy man, the high priest, and he only once a year," he said. "The Temple was not built for organised worship but as the dwelling place for God. So Isaiah in the Temple has a vision of God in all his power and glory and as creator of all that exists."

IAN McCARNEY

Standing at a spiritual crossroads: David Pittman, of Baker University, and the Rev Joe Goodridge

AT YOUR SERVICE

The land in Sproxton was given to the Methodist church by the local Coy family in thanks for the childhood conversion of one of their number, and the foundation stone was laid on June 29, 1864. "I have no doubt that in those days the builders were very conscious that they were standing on holy ground just like Moses in the wilderness before the bush that was aflame with the presence of God," said Mr Goodridge, presenting to Janet Funke, a surviving member of the Coy family, the original trowel used to lay the foundation stone. In a ritual to symbolise the passing of the property across the Atlantic, Mrs Funke then presented the trowel to Mr Pittman, the treasurer of Baker University in Kansas.

Afterwards, Mr Pittman explained: "We are a Methodist university founded in 1858, and we want this chapel because we do not have one. We looked at a number of chapels, but this one was built about the same time our university was founded and its architecture will complement the university's. It would be cheaper to build a replica but this has a special significance. We are an institution that is trying to preserve our Methodist heritage and tradition and this is one of the ways of doing that." The scheme, the idea of university president Dan Lambert, is costing almost one million dollars, he said.

Builders will begin to dismantle the church this summer. It will travel in six containers on six ships this winter, to be reassembled and ready for rededication next May, giving America a piece of spiritual England for its own backyard in Kansas.

The story of the Sproxton chapel's move to America is to be featured in a Channel 4 series on unusual religious architecture, to be broadcast this autumn.

Sproxton Methodist Church, currently at Sproxton, Leicestershire, soon to be at Baker University, Baldwin City, Kansas. Tel: 01476 75893 or 001 913-594-6451.

★ A one to five star ★ guide to the service

☐ **SUPERINTENDENT MINISTER:** The Rev Joe Goodridge.

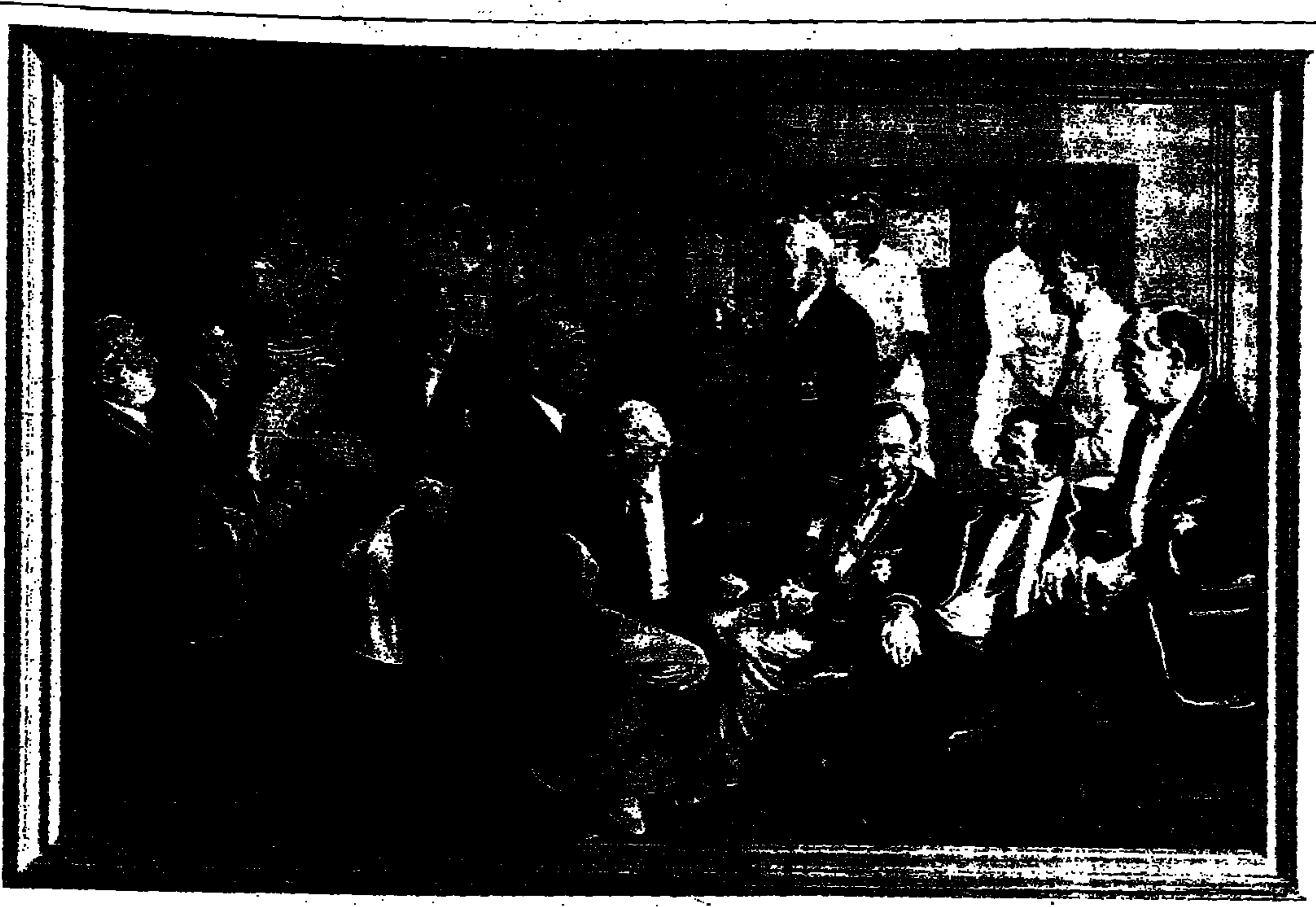
☐ **ARCHITECTURE:** Tiny Victorian Gothic gem in local ironstone with high-standing oak wood pulpit. ★★★★

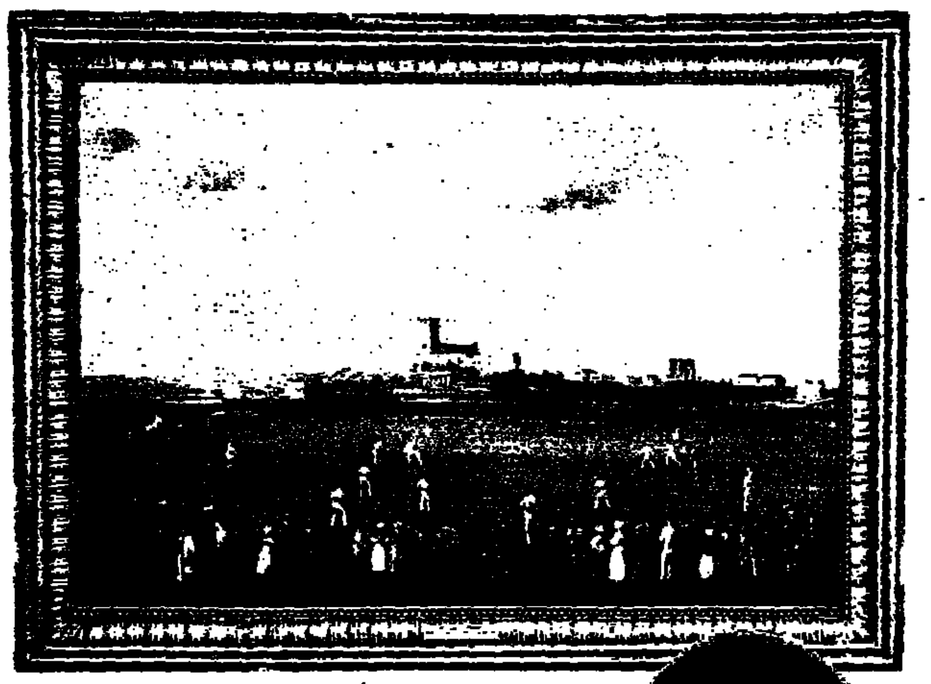
☐ **SERMON:** Meditation on holiness, tabernacles and the Temple. ★★★★

☐ **LITURGY AND MUSIC:** Hymns sung vigorously, with lines such as "fix in us thy humble dwelling" and "Dear name — the rock on which I build", accompanied by electric organ imported specially for the occasion. ★★★

☐ **SPIRITUAL HIGH:** Ready to die and be taken down, but soon to rise again. ★★★

☐ **AFTER-SERVICE CARE:** Last supper of bread, cake and tea. Truly a feast. ★★★★★





Left: this group portrait, ***The Conversation Piece***, painted by Andrew Festing in 1993, hangs in the Writing Room and features 14 of the finest postwar English cricketers. *From left to right:* Godfrey Evans, Trevor Bailey, Bill Edrich, Peter May, Ken Barrington, Brian Statham, Denis Compton, Alec Bedser, Len Hutton, Colin Cowdrey, Freddie Trueman, Jim Laker, Ted Dexter and Tom Graveney

*Above: **Cricket Match at Christchurch, Hampshire**,* by Thomas Musgrave Joy

Right: one of the two cannon balls from Sevastopol, mounted on wood above the Writing Room fireplace

ROBIN MAYES

Stephen Green, the curator at Lord's, in the famous Long Room

Long Room heroes

MCC members only are allowed in the hallowed Long Room, but the Grand Tour of Lord's does enable outsiders, men and women, to visit briefly. Just telephone and book and, for a small fee (adults £4.95, children £3.50), the doors to the most exclusive room at the most exclusive ground in the world will open.

Visitors are often met by Stephen Green, the curator at Lord's. *With his crumpled suit and careful erudition he might easily be an* Oxford don of the older kind. There is no better man with whom to see the Long Room.

Visitors are at once drawn to the portrait, by Archibald Stuart-Wortley, of W.G. Grace. When it was commissioned by MCC in 1890, Grace was asked what kind of painting he wanted. He said, "a large one", and that is what he got.

Such vanity was understand*able in the player who, in Ranji's words, "united in his mighty self* all the good *points* of all the good players". Thomas Lord, on the other hand, shows in his portrait a degree of humility. The founder of Lord's Cricket Ground, painted by an unknown artist, hangs in the Writing Room end of the Long Room, more than the length of a pitch away from Grace's bluster.

The Earl of Winchilsea hangs nearby, in dandy contrast to Lord in plain black coat. The "unknown founder of Lord's", young Winchilsea's portrait is by Nathaniel Dance. It was acquired in 1989, at Christie's, for £19,000. "Christie's didn't catalogue it terribly well," said Mr Green, with a trace of glee, "and they failed to mention his connection with cricket." The painting would have fetched a lot more had they done so.

The finest paintings in the Long Room are two small depictions of matches between Eton and Harrow. The first, from 1886, by Albert Chevallier Tayler, could be a Manet. It captures the essence of the occasion by focusing on the handsome crowd; of the cricket, only a lone boy fielder is in sight, his hands placed languidly on *well-bred hips. The second, by Albert Ludovici Jr (on loan from Patrick McAfee) has the same* French Impressionist flavour.

Mr Green prefers *A Game of Cricket* (c. 1790, by an unknown artist). "It would look rather nice in my drawing room," he says.

OTHER famous faces hang from the white walls, obeying no apparent scheme: the elderly Bradman, by *R. Hannaford;* Jardine, by *Herbert Olivier, the purest steel in his clear "Bodyline" eyes; and Alfred Mynn,* George Parr and John Wisden, sturdy stalwarts of a precious age, painted by William Bromley. But the most compelling "document", *Conversation Piece*, by Andrew Festing, commissioned in 1993, hangs in the Writing Room, which also boasts two cannon balls from Sevastopol, mounted on wood above the fireplace. *(They were given to the MCC in 1923 by a W. Higgins,* but the curator stresses that such curios are not something which the club would accept today.)

The group portrait features 14 of the finest postwar English cricketers. The ones now dead are painted in pale white, like friendly and energetic ghosts, and form the backdrop to the conversation between *living players in blazers: Peter May was painted before he died. Bill Edrich, Ken Barrington, Len Hutton and Jim Laker* are all depicted as we remember them: hitting sweetly to leg, looking *fiercely combative, striding out to* bat and flighting a venomous offbreak, respectively. Godfrey Evans is jocund, Trevor Bailey pensive; Freddie Trueman looks as if he is making an unpopular point at unpopular length; Ted Dexter is aloof but attentive; Alec Bedser is erect, as if ready to bowl; Denis Compton is an elder statesman; Tom Graveney and Colin Cowdrey appear grave. Only *Brian Statham is difficult to recognise, partly because of his status as* the least-photographed great cricketer ever to play for England.

"Brian Statham was the only one John Major failed to recognise when he was last here," Mr Green says. And to think that this Lancastrian took 252 wickets for England in 70 Tests — more than Bedser, Laker, Barnes and Lock, and fewer only than Underwood, Trueman, Willis and Botham.

TUNKU VARADARAJAN

● *For tours of Lord's, call the Gestetner Tour of Lord's office on 0171-266 3825.*

Continued from page 1

the cricketers are now mostly younger than I am, but the game is still dependent more than any other on the character and idealism of its players.

"Character and idealism": such strange and awkward *words today, but those who watch cricket know them well, and understand their import.*

Those who watch cricket are aware of other truths: in accounting for a day at a Test match one must account also for all the other senses.

Sitting on a hard seat beyond the boundary allows me not just to watch and marvel at balletic play, to record scores and statistics, and to commit pure strokes to memory, but to eat delicious food and drink chilled wine and beer, to smoke strong cigarettes — and share stronger observations with people who begin the day *as strangers but who linger with you at stumps* "in the westering sunshine, reluctant to return to the world" (as Cardus puts it) after the last flash of flannel has departed.

Ever since I acquired control of such things, I have made sure that I take with me to a Test match those provisions which are essential for a day given over totally to *pleasure. As a small boy at* my first Test match — at Delhi in December 1972, when England, under Tony Lewis, beat India by six wickets — my grandmother packed for me a small boy's lunch: bread *spread thickly with jam, packets of potato crisps, bananas* and several bottles of sticky Gold Spot. My brother and I were also given a few rupees to buy warm peanuts in their shells from the hawkers who roamed from stand to stand, shouting loudly and getting in people's way.

Jam sandwiches gave way gradually to better and more *stylish food. With each passing Test, I began to associate* my evolution from novice spectator to older hand with the food and drink which I brought to the ground. Yet it was not until my first Test at Lord's that I grasped the full richness of possibility that can rest in a lunch basket.

On this occasion, a man and his wife sat next to me, drinking cold champagne and eating neatly sculpted sandwiches of salmon, tongue and parma ham as India were bowled out for 96 by Botham, Lever and Hendrick. I nibbled on a lunch (I will *not reveal what it was*) that was, *by comparison,* as paltry as India's batting had been. Only my hero, Gavaskar, made a score — of 42, I think, before he was caught behind, off Gooch of all people.

My dejection must have been apparent to my neighbours, because they offered me *some of their lunch. It was not* my first glass of champagne, but it was my first tongue sandwich. I have eaten many more since then, my Brahmin palate having acquired an unlikely taste for beef.

❛ As a boy at school in the Rajasthan desert, with transistor pressed to small left ear, I heard John Arlott speak . . . of old Father Time with his scythe and wicket ❜

Basking in the new-found beauty of *Lord's that day I learnt a simple truth: however* compelling the play, a poorly assembled lunch can ruin a day at the Test match. Now, I take to Lord's only those things which are fit to be eaten and drunk at a ground of such sovereignty.

What best accompanies the cricket at a *Lord's Test match? Just as one would not dream of drinking Coke with crab or* Liebfraumilch with sweetbreads, one must ensure that, while the eyes and mind feast on a Lara or an Ambrose, the mouth receives only that which is in some sort of harmony with the game.

I believe that heavy food is not appropriate: however delicious it is in the eating, food *that lulls one to sleep should not be taken to a Test match.* Small parcels of food are best, easy to pack and convenient to share with neighbours.

There is as much pleasure in turning to the man next to you and offering him a slice of your Spanish omelette on bread, or whatever else you have brought, *as there is in the exchange of Jesuitical observations. And, over the years,* I have received a cornucopia of goodies in return: Jamaican patties, Trinidadian *roti*, biltong, crab pie, *samosa*, shrimp sandwiches, quail's eggs, even Chilean *empanadas* (from an Australian who married a girl from Valparaiso, divorced her, *but still retained his* love for her food).

This year, I will take small pitta bread parcels, some smeared inside with black olive paste and stuffed with mortadella, others filled with pecorino romano and serrano ham. I will drink, I think, some chilled sauvignon — Cloudy Bay, *perhaps,* or Poggio alle Gazze, if I can find any in London. And for teatime, I might take a box of Indian sweets from Drummond Street, to be eaten with strong black coffee and rum from a hip flask. Part of this feast I will share with agreeable neighbours. A Lord's Test makes one generous.

There can be no generosity, however, towards those who will, with their transistor radios and mobile phones, drown the hollow sound of wary bat on ball; or those who would, by the waving of their flags and banners, introduce at Lord's a tribal taste to which the place is just not suited.

Cricket is played in a variety of places, to a flock of styles and values, yet at Lord's it must be played and watched as it has always been done.

Of course I love Lord's because of its light, its green and its air. But I love it most of *all for the quietness of its passion and the soft culture of its observation.* In this, we must resist all wanton change.

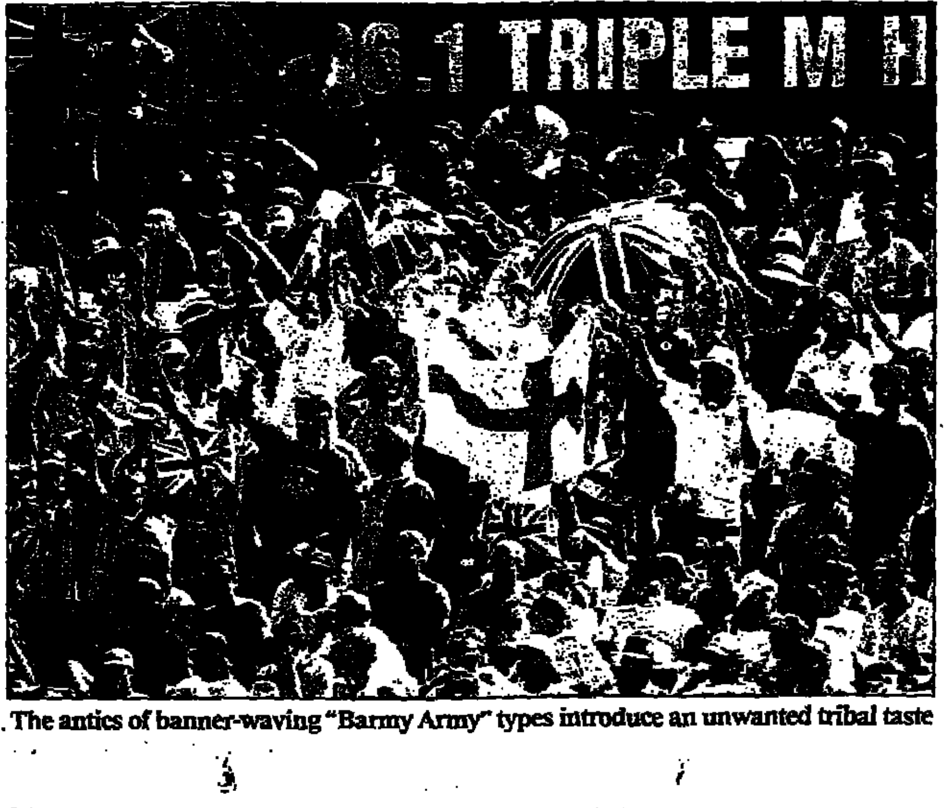
John Arlott wrote the following words on cricket at Worcester, and I imagine sometimes — perhaps too fondly in the present day — their echo at Lord's:

Like rattle of dry seeds in pods
The warm crowd faintly clapped;
The boys who came to watch their gods,
The tired old men who napped.
The members sat in their strong deck-chairs,
And sometimes glanced at the play,
They smoked and talked of stocks and shares,
And the bar stayed open all day.

These are old-fashioned thoughts, of course, but Lord's is an old-fashioned place.

Cover photograph of Tunku Varadarajan at Lord's by MARK HARRISON

ALLSPORT



The antics of banner-waving "Barmy Army" types introduce an unwanted tribal taste

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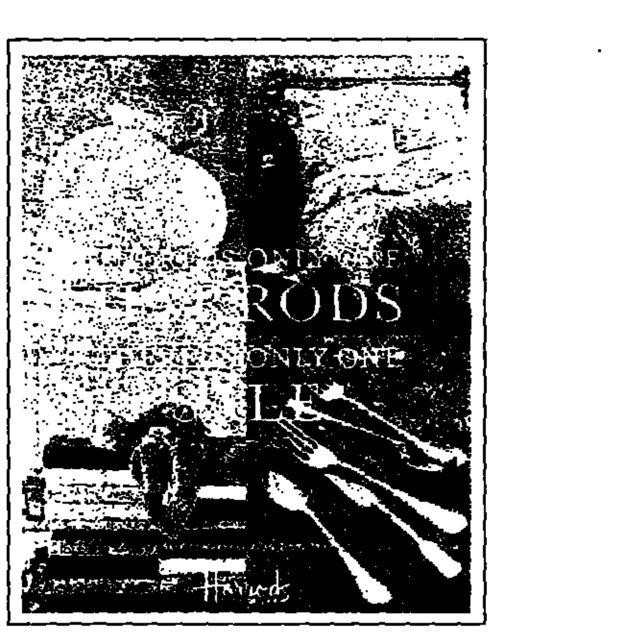

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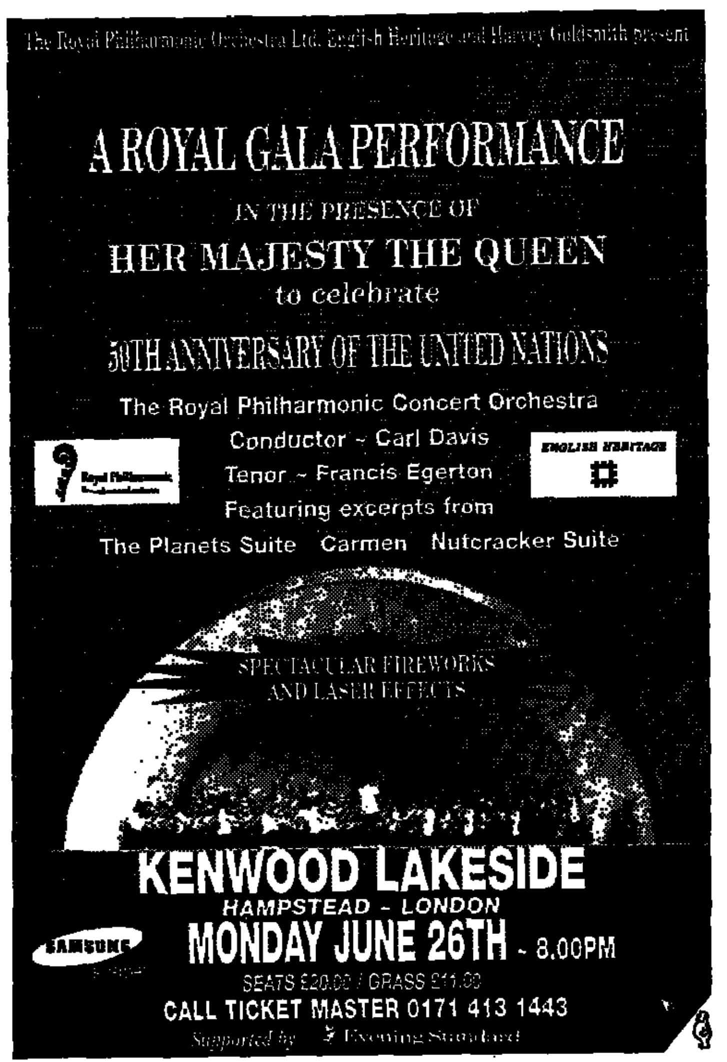

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Ton't 10 June 8.00pm	**POPULAR CLASSICS** Lon. Conc. Orch., David Arnold cond. Paul Lewis piano. Prog. inc: Rossini Ov. *The Barber of Seville* Handel Water Music Grieg Piano Concerto Mascagni Intermezzo from *Cavalleria Rusticana* Strauss Emperor Waltz Elgar Pomp & Circumstance March No.1 Tchaikovsky 1812 Overture with cannon & mortar effects £9.50 £13.50 £17.50 £19.50 £22.50 *Raymond Gubbay Ltd.*
Mon 12 June 7.30pm	**ROMANTIC HEROES: A Celebration of Music's Epic Era** The Wagner Legacy. Philharmonia Orchestra, Yondani Butt cond. Excerpts from *Tristan und Isolde, Tannhäuser, Der Ring des Nibelungen, Die Walküre, Das Rheingold, Götterdämmerung* £7.50 £9.50 £11.50 £13.50 £15.50 £17.50
Wed 14 June 7.30pm	**ROYAL PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA** United Nations' Tour Yehudi Menuhin cond., Sir Peter Maxwell Davies cond. Jonathan Carney violin Andrew Williams viola. *Maxwell Davies Time and the Raven: United Nations' Overture' London Première* Mozart Sinfonia Concertante in E flat for violin and viola Takemitsu Nostalghia Brahms Symphony No.1 in C minor *RPO Ltd. with* £5 £10 £16 £21 £27 *support from the Leopold Muller Estate*
Thur 15 June 7.30pm	**LONDON SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA** André Previn cond. Cheryl Studer soprano Tim Hugh cello. Mozart Un moto di gioia & Overture from *The Marriage of Figaro* Beethoven Ah, Perfido Strauss Don Quixote £6 £10 £14 £16.50 £22 £30 *LSO Ltd.* *SPONSORED BY Sema GROUP PLC*

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CHICHESTER FESTIVAL June 10 (Mat), 13, 14, 15 (Mat), 17 HOBSON'S CHOICE by Harold Brighouse Leo McKern, Nichola McAuliffe 'DELICIOUSLY PIQUANT REVIVAL' E.Std June 10, 12, 15, 16, 17 (Mat) HADRIAN VII By Peter Luke Derek Jacobi 'TOUR DE FORCE' Times. Box Off 01243 781312 Overnighter Theatre/Hotel Pkge from £34.50 01243 539435

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N.B. NEW MATINEE TIMES

DOMINION Ticketlines 0171 416 6060/ 0171 420 0000 (bkg fee). Grps 0171 416 6075/413 3321/420 0200
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DUCHESS cc 0171 494 5070 cc 344 4444 (no bkg fee)/836 2428 (bkg fee) 0171-413 3321 Eves 8pm, Wed mat 3pm, Sat 5pm & 8.30
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Adapted by Stephen Mallatratt
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THE PLOUGH AND THE STARS
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LAST 2 PERFS TODAY 2.30 & 7.45

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The NAT KING COLE Story
Prevs 14 June. Opens 19 June 7pm
Eves 8pm. Mats Thu 3 & Sat 4

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Marcus D'Amico & Nicholas Clay
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THE IMPORTANCE OF BEING EARNEST
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First perf 29 June. Opens 7 July
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OLIVIER Today 2.00 & 7.15 **WOMEN OF TROY** Euripides in a translation by Kenneth McLeish. Mon 7.15 **UNDER MILK WOOD** Dylan Thomas
LYTTELTON Today 2.15 & 7.30, Mon 7.30 **ABSOLUTE HELL** Rodney Ackland
COTTESLOE Today 2.00 & 7.15, Mon 7.15 **RICHARD II** William Shakespeare

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ALL SINGING ALL DANCING ALL GERSHWIN
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YOUNG VIC: **PENTECOST** Today 2.00 & 7.15
STRATFORD (01789 295623)
RST: **THE TAMING OF THE SHREW** Today 1.30 **ROMEO AND JULIET** Ton't 7.30
SWAN: **THE RELAPSE** Today 1.30
THE DEVIL IS AN ASS Ton't 7.30

SADLER'S WELLS 0171 713 6000
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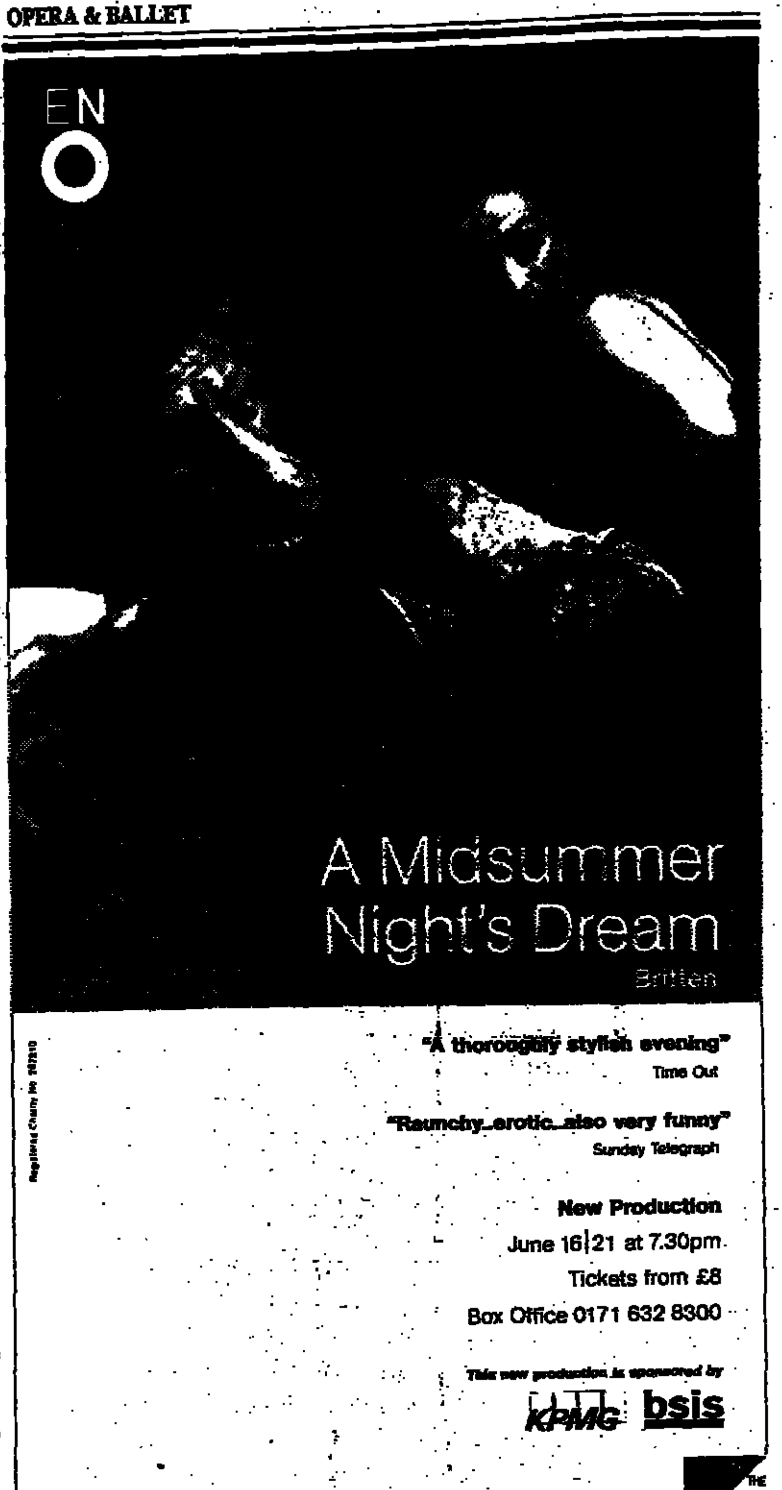
6-10 June 7.30pm & 10 June 2.30pm

OPERA & BALLET



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THEATRES

SAVOY 0171 836 8888 cc 24hr/7 days no bkg fee 420 0000 Grps 413 3321/312 8000.
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JOHN GORDON SINCLAIR RUTHIE HENSHALL
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Must End 1 July
LAST 4 WEEKS
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HARVEY
by MARY CHASE
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THE DUCHESS OF MALFI
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Ton't 7.30 MAHAGONNY

Glyndebourne Festival Opera with The London Philharmonic. Ton't, Sat 17 June 5.50pm **Ermione**. Please call for possible returns. Sun 11 June 4.50pm, Tues 13, Fri 16 June 5.50pm **La Clemenza di Tito**. Please call for possible returns Box Office/recorded information 01273 813813.

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RIGOLETTO first night 9 June 7.30pm
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Surely not the last word in bad taste

WEEK IN THE ARTS

RICHARD MORRISON

That ever-vigilant guardian of public morality, the Independent Television Commission, has delivered a rebuke to Channel 4 for allowing its splendidly subtle "yoof" programme, *The Word*, to televise such essential items as a man pulling a woman along by a tow-rope attached to his wedding tackle. And, of course, the now classic "vomiting Santa Claus" episode. I myself happened to watch the latter item — and very seasonal it was, too.

The ITC says that such *jeux d'esprit* are "over the edge of acceptable standards of taste" — even at 11.30pm on a Friday night, apparently, when anybody prudish enough to object is surely tucked up in bed with *The Essential Herbaceous Border*. Indeed, it now appears that nobody *did* object; the ITC's members (the classic Hampstead chattering-class mix of academics, shrinks, earls and company chairmen) simply took it upon themselves to generate outrage. Michael Grade, Channel 4's chief executive, retorts that the ITC is "out of touch" with *The Word*'s target audience.

For once, I fear that the loud man in red braces is right — and it pains me to write that, because some of Channel 4's gimmicks this year have been truly execrable. Whose "acceptable standards" are we talking about? Have the ITC's members never been in the junior combination room of a Cambridge college at midnight on a Saturday night? Has none of them ever undergone that trial by lager — a Club 18-30 holiday?

Laddish behaviour is surely "all part of growing up". Wise fifty-somethings (the average age of ITC members is 53) will recall the japes of their own youth, and accept that not all television should be aimed at folk in cardigans.

And of all people, Sir George Russell, the ITC's chairman, should recognise this. For as chairman of Camelot, the National Lottery operator, he also presides over an organisation that has done more to debase public broadcasting standards than *The Word* could ever achieve. You think I am exaggerating? Then you have not been watching the BBC's grotesquely tacky live broadcasts of the lottery draw.

But do we have a trend here? Even the beginnings of a moral backlash? By one of those strange coincidences, the ITC's ruling about *The Word* came just a week after Senator Bob Dole made his now famous attack on the moral standards of the American film and music industries.

You will recall his vibrant rhetoric. Senator Bob, who aspires to become the next President of the United States, has apparently decided that nasty films and rap songs are the root cause of America's problems. These "nightmares of depravity" are leading to "the mainstreaming of deviancy". And the executives of Time Warner (the record company involved with some of rap music's tastier villains) are given a special scolding: "Is this what you intend to accomplish with your careers? You have sold your souls, but must you debase our nation and threaten our children as well?"

Gosh. He left out the bit about raping the rain forests, eating newborn infants and scribbling in library books, but we get the drift. America is drowning in filth. Satan, thy name is Hollywood! The hearts and minds of a great nation are being corrupted by perversions on screen and CD. Oh, and by the way, vote for me in November 1996.

As it happened, I was on holiday in the White Mountains of Crete when Senator Bob made his speech. I read his words, and then looked around me. Here was an island that nurtured a fabulous ancient civilisation — and saw it destroyed utterly. An island that was fought over for millennia by Greeks, Romans, Turks and Venetians — and was then ravaged again in one of the most brutal battles of the Second World War.

And yet here was a farmer leading a mule to market. Here were old men playing dominoes. Here was a little girl bowing a dance tune on a three-stringed folk fiddle. These are vignettes that have endured through 8,000 years of Cretan turmoil, and will endure 8,000 more. Thomas Hardy's line came to mind: "War's annals will cloud into night ere their story die".

Call me complacent, call me an old softie. But in these surroundings Senator Bob's worries did strike me as being somewhat deficient in historical perspective. Has he so little faith in the enduring decency of the American people? When the essential civilising qualities of truth and integrity, beauty and courtesy, have withstood so many wars, atrocities and pestilences, does he really believe that a few violent films or puerile songs can deprave a whole nation?

Senator Bob should relax. With such stupendously bland tosh as *Forrest Gump* breaking all box-office records, Hollywood is more likely to bore America into a coma than incite an orgy of depravity. As for our own ITC and its pompous posturing over *The Word*, well, as this newspaper once famously declared about another classic generation gap: who breaks a butterfly on a wheel? Let the kids be juvenile while they can. They will be chained to the sombre treadmill of mortgages and negative equity soon enough.

GREAT BRITISH HOPES

Rising stars in the arts firmament

RONALD FRASER-MUNRO

Profession: He is a multimedia artist

Age: 32

What does a "multimedia artist" do? Almost anything, but in Fraser-Munro's case it usually takes the form of public performance, often incorporating video, CD-Rom, poetry, dance and music, mostly conceived and written by him but also in collaboration.

Seen recently? At the Institute of Contemporary Arts last Christmas he developed a cult following with *Soap*, a narrative over four days, in which he and his accomplice kidnapped the Queen. Each episode began with a video reprisal of the story so far. Last week Fraser-Munro finished a ten-day stint in the ICA's *Let's Get It On* season, appearing on six evenings in the bar to harangue customers as, variously, Cesare Cappucino, "the world's hippest cardinal", Sir Arthur Stuffed-Shirt and his Revolving Monocle and Curt Vile, "ex-Nazi and fashion propagandist", among others. The added visual poignancy to these caricatures is that Fraser-Munro is black.

Next? At the Royal Court Theatre on Monday and Tuesday night as one of the winners of the Barclays New Stages. His company, Le Shovelle Diplomatique, which is chiefly himself, presents two pieces: *La Chaise Longue Dangereuse*, which "uses video and live performance to unchain the emotions of two neighbours" called Jacques Du Quack and Monique de Pression; and *Bruder c'est Grim!*, which has nothing to do with the Brothers Grimm, but is a poetic and musical "assault on life and death at the end of the 20th century". Both are seriously funny.

What do people say about him? Catherine Ugwu, who devised *Let's Get It On*, said he was "the most original talent — audiences respond with either adulation or complete disgust". The ICA's live-art director, Lois Keidan, called him "totally unexpected, incredibly prolific, a kind of human installation". Angus Farquhar, director of *Stormy Waters*, the two-day event taking over Glasgow's Clydeside next month, said he was "a one-off, a multiple split personality, a black cross between Vivian Stanshall and Ivor Cutler".

What has he to do with *Stormy Waters*? He is the compere.

Doesn't sound very surreal. The show starts with the compere's voice and a 10m high screen bursting into life with a view of the inside of his mouth via an endoscopic camera.

So then, presumably, on to the Edinburgh Fringe. "Not for me. I don't believe in hooting and roaring. I'm not one of those Oxbridge types that believes all humanity is absurd."

Not part of the glittering stream from the Cambridge Footlights, then. Born in Nantwich, Cheshire; father a carpenter; brought up in Crewe and joined the RAF to get away from the place. Spent five years in Cheshire as a clerk. "I learnt how to grow a handlebar moustache and call people Ginger." Bought himself out of the RAF and set up a company called Committed Theatre, which toured Islington pub venues, got a job at the Barbican bookshop but was made redundant in 1992. Has hardly been out of work since.

Ambition? "To find time to finish one of the six plays I've got on the computer."

SIMON TAIT

THE SUNDAY TIMES
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The Sunday Times is celebrating the centenary of the cinema with a reference book published in eight parts of the 1,000 people who have made the most significant impact on the movies. 1000 MAKERS OF THE CINEMA builds into an invaluable work you will want to keep.
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Vile mikes mar Weill's score

OPERA: At the Coliseum **Rodney Milnes** laments an 'incomprehensible' English National Opera staging of Weill's *The Rise and Fall of the City of Mahagonny*

DONALD COOPER

Lesley Garrett: encouraged to play the enigmatic Jenny as a B-movie good-time girl

It is impossible to write sensibly about the musical side of this new production of Weill's opera. That is because of a sinister development threatening the very raison d'être of opera — a development compared to which the invention of surtitles is but a bagatelle. ENO has for some time been discreetly experimenting with the amplification of voices; on Thursday, discretion was thrown to the winds, and amplification was as blatant as it was ill-managed.

It appeared to be completely random. Some voices were miked some of the time, others not, the why and wherefore remaining a complete mystery. The first deleterious effect of amplification is to muffle the singers' diction, and the second is to throw balance between pit and stage into complete disarray.

The responsibility for how a great composer's score should sound is taken out of the conductor's hands and put into those of a sound engineer uncredited in the programme. How could Sian Edwards, ENO's music director, have allowed this?

It is hard, given the possibility of overspill into the mikes from the pit, to judge the actual performance of the orchestra itself; on the evidence of what was heard, Weill needs crisper, brighter overall sound, and certainly more incisive rhythm than Edwards supplied.

It is equally hard to assess the voices. Sally Burgess we know about unmiked, and she was well-cast as Widow Bebick, catching her music's poisonous lyricism as well as its forcefulness. Lesley Garrett sang sweetly enough as Jenny. As far as one could tell, Robert Brubaker, the American tenor making his house debut as Jimmy Mahoney, displayed an easy, unforced lyric voice well up to the considerable demands of the role (he ducked the top C in his aria, perfectly permissable). I suspect the American bass Brian Matthews (Trinity Moses), also *en debut*, is better than he was allowed to sound.

For different reasons it is equally hard to write about Declan Donnellan's production. What was he trying to achieve? What was this carefree musical-comedy staging in cool, elegant designs by Nicholas Ormerod supposed to have to do with Weill's angry elegy for a dying civilisation? Donnellan is probably right to jettison the whole Weimar ethos of the work, but something other than the values of TV light entertainment needs to be put in its place.

I know that culinary characterisation would be quite out of place in Brecht's epic scenario, but the cast-list contains several well-established archetypes, and they were not made flesh. All depended on the capabilities of the singers themselves. Again, Burgess stood out with the forcefulness of her personality. Garrett was made to play Jenny, a character as enigmatic as Manon or Lulu, merely as a B-movie good-time girl.

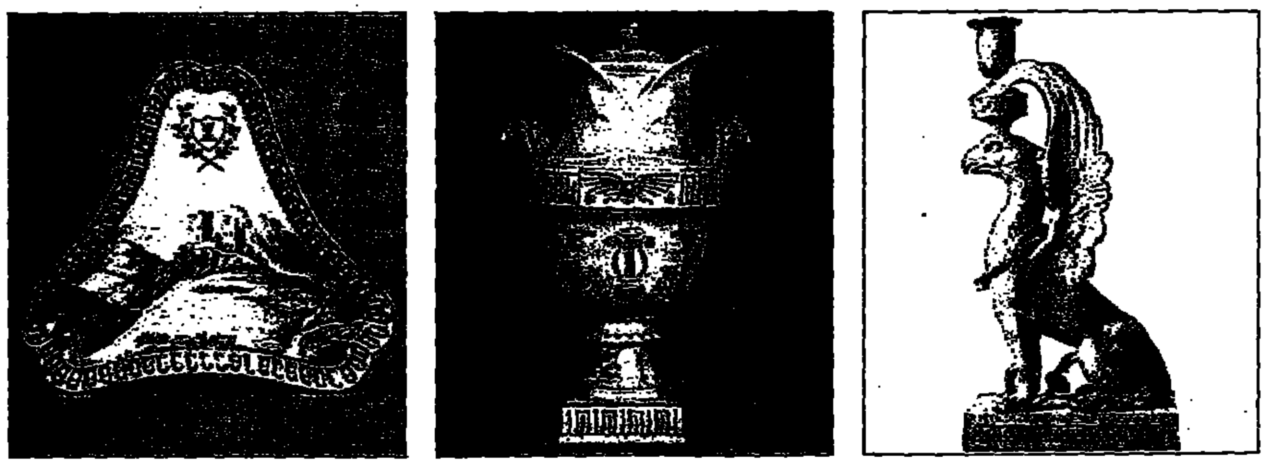
The four lumberjacks, dressed as day-trippers to Southend, were ciphers. Even so accomplished a comedian as Adrian Thompson was wasted as Fatty the Bookkeeper. There was no sense of a society, any society. Without that, *Mahagonny* falls.

The trial scene, one of the blackest episodes in all 20th-century opera, was played as a big comic production number with TV cameras, make-up girls and "applause" cards: the terror evaporated. Similarly with the ensuing Benares Song, the ultimate Twentieth Century Blues, done as a cute Ink Spots number round a microphone. Of course Donnellan intended a degree of irony, but he miscalculated the balance fatally.

On a more cheerful note, the chorus was on good form. Its Mandalay Song in the brothel scene was one of the few moments when this dismal, incomprehensible evening achieved lift-off.

EXHIBITION: The V & A's Wedgwood bicentenary show is a rare delight

Our history in feats of clay



Wedgwood wares: triangular dish from the Frog Service; Rosso Antico vase and cover; Black Basalt griffin candlestick

The title of the V&A's major summer exhibition is carefully chosen: *The Genius of Wedgwood* and not, as one might expect "The Art of Wedgwood". Gladstone, himself a collector of Wedgwood wares, said of Josiah Wedgwood: "He was the greatest man who ever applied himself to the important work of uniting art with industry." In other words, he was more of an impresario than an original creator.

Wedgwood was not entirely a Diaghilev of the potteries, however. He was trained as a potter, and when he lost a leg at the age of 24, he continued to work obsessively on the technical side, constantly experimenting with new materials and new ways of doing things. He became a great reader and self-educator, so that in later life he was able to meet the most distinguished artists and cognoscenti of his time on equal terms. He was also, clearly, a salesman of genius.

This makes him the first in a line of expert businessmen involved with packaging and marketing the arts: his successors would probably be Fabergé, Lalique and Sir Terence Conran. In the late 18th century — and ever since — the name of Wedgwood attached to a piece of ceramic stood as a guarantee of quality.

Mention the name of Wedgwood today, and the image is of white, cameo-like designs on a background of pale blue or sometimes pale green. It may come as a surprise in the exhibition, which marks the bicentenary of Josiah's death, that this kind of Wedgwood, the Jasper ware, figures so little, and is put clearly in perspective as a minor though distinctive element in Wedgwood's total output.

The most spectacular part of the show is quite different — some 300 of the 770 surviving pieces from the Frog Service, commissioned by Catherine the Great in 1773 and so called because it was made for her new Chesmenski Palace, built on a site originally called the Frog Marsh.

Only once since they were shipped to Russia have any of these extraordinary pieces been seen in England — in 1909 — and then only a very few, so the present loan from the Hermitage offers a unique opportunity. The particular interest of the Frog Service is in its decoration, which kept 30 china-painters busy in Chelsea for several years. The designs, different on each piece, are no less than an illustrated gazetteer to the historic and picturesque sites of Britain. Stately homes, crumbling ruins, megaliths and natural phenomena such as Fingal's Cave are all recorded in crisp and meticulous detail, in monochrome on a creamy background.

The Frog Service takes up the whole final gallery of the show. Before that we follow Josiah's early history, his first experiments, and his crucial contacts with the artistic elite of his time. These were brought about first through his partnership with Thomas Bentley, who moved him in the direction of neo-classicism.

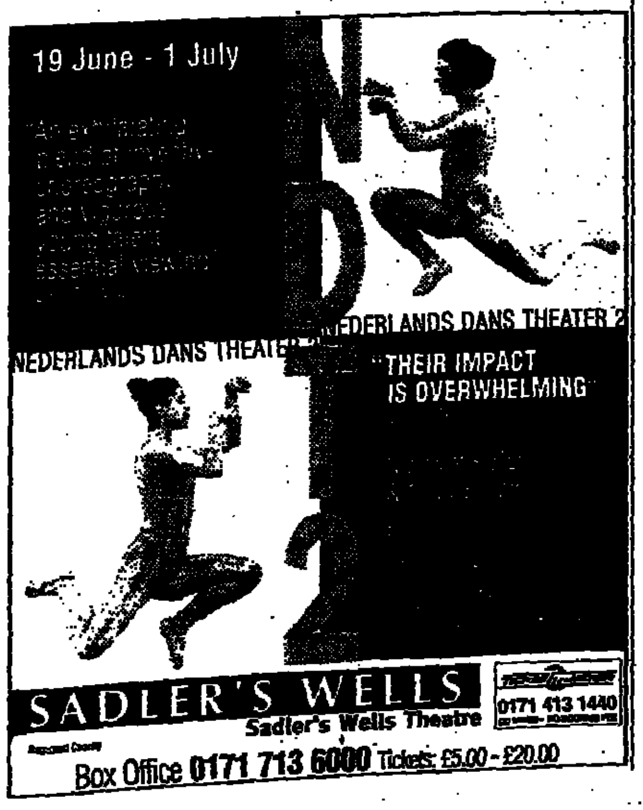
Wedgwood, with or without Bentley, evidently had an eye for talent, commissioning designs from many younger artists before they were recognised as important, among them Flaxman and Stubbs, and bringing in established figures such as Reynolds and Angelica Kauffmann to advise and design.

A visual guide to 18th-century Britain, a who's-who of neo-classical design, an insight into the workings of the first Industrial Revolution: the show offers all of these and much more to delight the expert as well as those with the least claim to expertise, whether or not they want to go further than just looking and revelling in what they see.

JOHN RUSSELL TAYLOR

● The Genius of Wedgwood *is at the Victoria and Albert Museum, Cromwell Road, SW7 (0171-938 8441) until September 17. Admission £4.75, concessions £2.75*

Wedgwood at Port Sunlight, page 23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WEST END ENTERTAINMENT

THEATRE GUIDE

Jeremy Kingston's assessment of theatre showing in London

■ House full, returns only
◩ Some seats available
☐ Seats at all prices

☐ **AIN'T MISBEHAVIN'**: Exhilaratin' *song 'n' dance show created from the* hits of Fats Waller. Non-stop energy on feet.
Lyric, Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (0171-494 5045). Mon-Sat, 8pm, mats Thurs, 3pm and Sat, 5pm.

◩ **AMPHITRYON**: Kleist's tragi-comic version of the old tale about divine trickery in the marriage bed. Creditable revival by David McVicar.
Gate, 11 Pembridge Rd, W11 (0171-229 0706). Mon-Sat, 7.30pm.

☐ **CROSSING THE EQUATOR**: New Jane Coles play, set on a ship leaving post-war England for Australia. John Dove directs latest work by the author of *Cat with Green Violin* and *Backstroke in a Crowded Pool*.
Bush, Shepherds Bush Green, W12 (0181-743 3388). Mon-Sat, 8pm. At least until July 8.

◩ **DANTI-DAN**: Lynne Parker directs Rough Magic's commissioned play from Gina Moxley. A gang of Cork teenagers coping with sex and boredom in the long hot summer of 1970.
Hampstead, Swiss Cottage Centre, NW3 (0171-722 9301). Now previewing, 8pm. Opens June 13, 7pm. Ⓢ

◩ **DEALER'S CHOICE**: Patrick Marber's fascinating poker drama: funny one-liners abound, along with perceptions of the roots of gambling.
Vaudeville, Strand, WC2 (0171-836 9987). Mon-Fri, 7.45pm, Sat, 8.15pm; mats Wed, 3pm and Sat, 5pm.

☐ **THE DUCHESS OF MALFI**: Juliet *Stevenson and Simon Russell Beale in* Webster's tragedy of incest, murder *and the borderland of the mind.*
Wyndhams, Charing Cross Road, WC2 (0171-369 1746). Mon-Sat, 7.30pm; mats Wed and Sat, 3pm.

☐ **FIVE GUYS NAMED MOE**: The joint is jumping again now that Clarke Peters's celebrated musical has bounced back into the West End.
Albery, St Martin's Lane, WC2 (0171-369 1730). Mon-Thurs, 8pm; Fri and Sat, 6pm and 8.45pm.

☐ **HARVEY**: *Laid back performance* by Gorden Kaye in very thin comedy *about an invisible Rabbit. With Rue* McClanahan.
Shaftesbury, Shaftesbury Avenue, WC2 (0171-379 5399). Mon-Sat, 7.45pm, mats Thurs, Sat, 2.30pm. Ⓢ

☐ **HOT MIKADO**: Irresistably enjoyable jazz and jitterbug version of Gilbert and Sullivan's comic opera. Superb clowning from Ross Lehman's Ko-Ko.
Queen's, Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (0171-494 5044). Tue-Sat, 8pm, mats Thurs, Sat and Sun, 3pm.

☐ **INSIGNIFICANCE**: Terry Johnson *directs a revival of his own marvellous* play: Frances Barber, Alun Armstrong, *Ian Hogg and Jack Klaff play Marilyn* Monroe, Einstein, Sen. McCarthy and *Joe Di Maggio.*
Donmar Warehouse, Earlham Street, WC2 (0171-369 1732). Tue-Sat, 8pm; mats Sat, Sun 4pm. Until Aug 6. Ⓢ

☐ **THE KILLING OF SISTER GEORGE**: *Miriam Margolyes plays the* tweedy soap heroine in Frank Marcus's *excellent comedy with a bite.* Serena Evans and Josephine Tewson play her *treacherous companion and boss.*
Ambassadors, West Street, WC2 (0171-836 6111). Mon-Fri, 8pm; Sat, 8.30pm. Thurs, 3pm, Sat, 5.30pm.

◩ **A MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM**: Adrian Noble's richly beautiful production from last year's Stratford. The outstanding cast includes Alex Jennings, Stella Gonet, Desmond Barrit, Barry Lynch.
Barbican, Silk Street, EC2 (0171-638 8891). Today, 2pm and 7.15pm; Mon-Tue, 7.15pm. Ⓢ

◩ **OUT IN THE COLD**: Wolfgang Borchert's despairing view of life as experienced by a soldier back in Hamburg from the Russian front. Another excellent production from this pub-theatre powerhouse.
Greenwich Studio, Prince of Orange, 189 Greenwich High Road, SE10 (0181-858 2862). Tue-Sun, 8pm; mat June 14, 4pm.

☐ ***PENTECOST***: *In the opinion of* many, the best play of 1994: David *Edgar explores the conflicting claims of* art and nationalism, tourism and the *needs of the poor, all set in an* abandoned church in Eastern Europe. *Michael Attenborough directs the RSC.*
Young Vic, The Cut, SE1 (0171-928 6363). Today, 2pm and 7.15pm. Then in rep. Ⓢ

☐ **THE PLOUGH AND THE STARS**: O'Casey's tremendous tragi-comedy, in a justly acclaimed revival by Joe Dowling's all-Irish company.
Garrick, Charing Cross Road, WC2 (0171-494 5510). Today, 2.30 and 7.45pm. Final performances.

◩ **RETREAT**: Tim Pigott-Smith plays a man retired to his Welsh cottage and talented newcomer Victoria Hamilton is *an unsettling visitor.* Sam Walters directs poignant James Saunders play.
Orange Tree, Clarence Street, Richmond (0181-940 3633). Mon-Sat, 7.45pm; mat Sat, 4pm. Ⓢ

☐ ***RICHARD III***: *Jasper Britton, the* psychotic monarch, in a less than *special production by Brian Cox.*
Open Air, Regent's Park, NW1 (0171-486 2431). *Tonight, 8pm; in rep from* Mon.

☐ **THE ROCKY HORROR SHOW**: The Undead pose and prance again: Brad, Jane, Frank N Furter and Riff-Raff back *in the West End* for the umpteenth time. Robin Cousins and Nicholas *Parsons in the company.*
Duke of York's, St Martin's Lane, WC2 (0171-836 5122). Mon-Thurs, 8.15pm; Fri and Sat, 7pm and 9.30pm. Ⓢ

☐ **THE SILVER TASSIE**: Sean O'Casey's fierce and haunting anti-war drama, not seen in London since 1969. Lynne Parker's production glows with fitful power.
Almeida, Almeida Street, N1 (0171-359 4404). Mon-Sat, 8pm; mat Sat, 4pm. Ⓢ

◩ **A VIEW FROM THE BRIDGE**: David Thacker's acclaimed production, *with Bernard Hill superb as the NY* longshoreman consumed by *unspeakable love for his niece.*
Strand, Aldwych, WC2 (0171-930 8800). *Today, 3pm and 7.45pm*, Sun, 3pm. Final performances.

LONG RUNNERS

☐ **Buddy**: Victoria Palace (0171-834 1317) ... ■ **Cats**: New London (0171-405 0072) ... ☐ **Copacabana**: Prince of Wales (0171-839 5972) ... ◩ **Crazy for You**: Prince Edward (0171-734 8951) ... ☐ **Don't Dress for Dinner**: Duchess (0171-494 5070) ... ■ **Grease**: Dominion (0171-416 6060) ☐ **In Praise of Love**: Apollo (0171-494 5070) ... ◩ **Indian Ink**: Aldwych (0171-416 6003) ... ☐ **Mama I Want to Sing**: Cambridge (0171-494 5080). ☐ **My Night With Reg**: Criterion (0171-839 4488) ... ☐ **A Passionate Woman**: Comedy (0171-369 1731) ... ■ **Starlight Express**: Apollo Victoria (0171-828 8665) ... ■ **Sunset Boulevard**: Adelphi (0171-344 0055) ☐ **The Woman in Black**: Fortune (0171-836 2238)

Ticket information supplied by Society of London Theatre

CINEMA GUIDE

Geoff Brown's assessment of films in London and (where indicated with the symbol v) on release across the country

NEW RELEASES

◆ **THE BRADY BUNCH MOVIE** (12): *Adventures of an unnaturally wholesome* L.A. family. Endearing send-up of the *70s sit-com, with Shelley Long and Gary* Cole. Director, Betty Thomas.
Empire Ⓢ (0800 888911) **MGMs: Baker Street** (0171-935 9772) **Trocadero** Ⓢ (0171-434 0031) **UCI Whiteleys** Ⓢ (0171-792 3332)

◆ **JACK & SARAH** (15): Tame British comedy about one man, one baby, one nanny and the in-laws. Not for macho males. With Richard E. Grant, Samantha Mathis. Director, Tim Sullivan.
Barbican Ⓢ (0171-638 8891) **Gate** Ⓢ (0171-727 4043) **MGMs: Fulham Road** (0171-370 2636) **Haymarket** (0171-839 1527) **Trocadero** Ⓢ (0171-434 0031) **Richmond** (0181-332 0030) **Screen/Baker Street** (0171-935 2772) **Screen/Green** (0171-226 3520) **UCI Whiteleys** Ⓢ (0171-792 3332) **Warner** Ⓢ (0171-437 4343)

KILLER (18): Hit man loves his intended target. Neat, knowing thriller from debuting director Mark Malone, with Anthony LaPaglia and Mimi Rogers.
MGMs: Chelsea (0171-352 5096) **Tottenham Court Road** (0171-636 6148) **Trocadero** Ⓢ (0171-434 0031) **Warner** Ⓢ (0171-437 4343)

◆ **KISS OF DEATH** (18): Ex-con David Caruso is forced to infiltrate Nicolas Cage's gang. Flashy thriller that wastes its potential. Director, Barbet Schroeder.
Clapham Picture House (0171-498 3323) **MGM Chelsea** (0171-352 5096) **Odeons: Kensington** (01426 914666) **Swiss Cottage** (01426 914098) **West End** (01426 915574) **Screen/Baker Street** (0171-935 2772) **UCI Whiteleys** Ⓢ (0171-792 3332)

SIX DEGREES OF SEPARATION (15): See Critics' Choice, page 2.

CURRENT

BULLETS OVER BROADWAY (15): Diverting Woody Allen comedy set in New York's theatre world of the 1920s. With John Cusack, Chazz Palminteri, Dianne Wiest.
Chelsea (0171-351 3742) **MGM Tottenham Court Road** (0171-636 6148) **Odeons: Haymarket** (01426 915353) **Kensington** (01426 914666)

◆ **BYE BYE LOVE** (12): Three divorced dads spend a fractious weekend with their kids. Facile comedy for male baby boomers, with Matthew Modine, Paul Reiser and Randy Quaid. Director, Sam Weisman.
Warner Ⓢ (0171-437 4343)

CLERKS (18): Rough-edged, funny American comedy about a day in the life of a convenience store assistant. Promising debut for young writer-director Kevin Smith.
Metro (0171-437 0757) **Renoir** (0171-837 8402)

DEATH AND THE MAIDEN (18): A decent transfer of Ariel Dorfman's play, but a cramped, impersonal film for Roman Polanski. With Sigourney Weaver, Ben Kingsley, Stuart Wilson.
Curzon Phoenix (0171-369 1721)

◆ **DON JUAN DEMARCO** (15): Refreshing and quirky romantic fantasy about a man who thinks himself to be Don Juan. With Johnny Depp, Marlon Brando and Faye Dunaway.
MGMs: Fulham Road (0171-370 2636) **Shaftesbury Avenue** (0171-836 6279) **Notting Hill Coronet** Ⓢ (0171-727 6705) **Plaza** (0800 888997) **UCI Whiteleys** Ⓢ (0171-792 3332)

ED WOOD (15): *See Critics's Choice,* page 2.

◆ **A FEAST AT MIDNIGHT** (PG): Gauche but enjoyable goings-on at an English boarding school. With Freddie Findlay and Christopher Lee. director, Justin Hardy.
MGM Trocadero Ⓢ (0171-434 0031)

HOOP DREAMS (15): Marvellous documentary by Steve James, Fred Marx and Peter Gilbert about two inner city kids and their dreams of playing professional basketball.
MGMs: Swiss Centre (0171-439 4470)

◆ **LEGENDS OF THE FALL** (15): *Bogus epic about a Montana family early* in the century. With Brad Pitt, Aidan Quinn and Anthony Hopkins. Director, Edward Zwick.
Warner Ⓢ (0171-437 4343)

MAD DOGS AND ENGLISHMEN (18): Inadequate thriller about London's smart young drug addicts, with Elizabeth Hurley, C. Thomas Howell and Joss Ackland. Director, Henry Cole.
Electric Ⓢ (0171-792 2020) **Plaza** Ⓢ (0800 888997)

◆ **THE MADNESS OF KING GEORGE** (PG): *Nigel Hawthorne reigns* supreme as Alan Bennett's tormented *monarch. A fine film transfer by stage* director Nicholas Hytner, with Helen *Mirren and Ian Holm.*
Curzon Mayfair (0171-369 1720) ***Odeon Kensington** (01426 914666)*

THE MANGLER (18): Lame and silly horror film from a Stephen King story about a bloodthirsty laundry machine. With Robert Englund. Director, Tobe Hooper.
Warner Ⓢ (0171-437 4343)

◆ **MURIEL'S WEDDING** (15): Ugly duckling becomes swan. Boisterous, queasy Aussie comedy. P.J. Hogan directs Toni Collette, Bill Hunter and *Rachel Griffiths.*
MGMs: Fulham Road (0171-370 2636) ***Shaftesbury Avenue** (0171-836 6279)* **Odeons: Mezzanine** Ⓢ (01426 915683) ***Swiss Cottage** (01426 914098)* **UCI Whiteleys** Ⓢ (0171-792 3332) **Warner** Ⓢ *(0171-437 4343)*

◆ **ONE HUNDRED AND ONE DALMATIANS** (U): Disney's pleasant, witty cartoon version of Dodie Smith's book about endangered puppies, first released in 1961.
Odeons: Kensington (01426 914666) **Swiss Cottage** (01426 914098) **Prince Charles** (0171-437 8181) **UCI Whiteleys** Ⓢ (0171-792 3332)

◆ **OUTBREAK** (18): Taut virus thriller *that turns silly. With Dustin Hoffman and* Rene Russo and Morgan Freeman. *Director, Wolfgang Petersen.*
MGMs: Fulham Road Ⓢ (0171-370 2636) **Trocadero** Ⓢ *(0171-434 0031)* **UCI Whiteleys** Ⓢ (0171-792 3332) **Warner** Ⓢ *(0171-437 4343)*

LA REINE MARGOT (18): Bloody, brooding, occasionally impressive French history lesson, with Isabelle Adjani and Daniel Auteuil. Director, Patrice Chéreau.
MGM Panton Street (0171-930 0631)

◆ ***RICHIE RICH** (PG): Zillionaire* offspring Macaulay Culkin comes to his *parents' rescue. Dull, overblown* comedy, with John Larroquette. Director, *Donald Petrie.*
MGMs: Fulham Road Ⓢ (0171-370 2636) **Trocadero** Ⓢ *(0171-434 0031)* **UCI Whiteleys** Ⓢ (0171-792 3332)

◆ **ROB ROY** (15): Lavish but lusty epic, with Liam Neeson as the Scottish folk hero and Tim Roth heading the baddies. Michael Caton-Jones directs, with Jessica Lange, John Hurt and Brian Cox.
MGMs: Baker Street (0171-935 9772) **Chelsea** (0171-352 5096) **Odeons: Kensington** (01426 914666) **Leicester Square** (01426-915 683) **Marble Arch** (01426 914501) **Swiss Cottage** (01426 914098) **UCI Whiteleys** Ⓢ (0171-792 3332)

THE SEXUAL LIFE OF THE BELGIANS (18): Funny, quirky sexual odyssey. First in Jan Bucquoy's autobiographical trilogy.
Metro (0171-437 0757) **MGM Piccadilly** (0171-437 3561)

SOMEBODY TO LOVE (18): Flawed but vibrant hymn to life's underdogs from Alexandre Rockwell, director of *In the Soup*. With Rosie Perez and Harvey Keitel.
Curzon West End (0171-369 1722)

◆ **TALES FROM THE CRYPT: DEMON KNIGHT** (18): Lively spin-off from the television series, featuring gore, glop and juvenile humour. With William Sadler and Billy Zane. director, Ernest Dickerson.
MGM Trocadero Ⓢ (0171-434 0031) **Plaza** (0800 888997)

It's a sailor's life for me

Simon Tait shivers his timbers at an interactive nautical gallery

Deep-sea diving at the National Maritime Museum — "things only seem to go wrong when *adults have a go*"

There is a ubiquity about Vivien Duffield these days. When not banging the charitable drum for the Royal Opera House, *she is doing it for the* Dulwich Picture Gallery; when not funding the building of the Tate's Turner Gallery, she has been founding the extraordinary Eureka! children's educational museum in Halifax.

Her latest exertion has been at the National Maritime Museum, Greenwich, with its new attempt to address the young, All Hands, to which *her own foundation* has contributed £150,000 of the £400,000 fitting-out costs.

"*Without her it* wouldn't have happened," says Richard Ormond, the museum's director, "*and not just financially*. She went through here like a tornado as we were planning it, saying, 'That won't work', 'That's great', 'That'll work if you do this'... and she was spot on every time."

And so the National Maritime Museum has a nautical playground in which education creeps up barely noticed. The All Hands Gallery is the museum's latest innovation, set in the £1.3 million Leopold Muller education centre, opened last month.

My six-year-old helper, Adam, now knows from first-hand experience that you can *send Morse messages* in sound and light, that in loading cargo you can easily tip *your vessel over, and that it is* extremely difficult to hit a moving target with a cannon ball fired from a ship. And, most importantly to Adam, that in the 16th century sailors ate rats.

Two years ago *the museum* carried out an uncomplicated experiment in populism by *mounting Pirates, an un*ashamed exploration of picaresque truth and fable aimed at children. *The result was a* 20 per cent increase in visitor figures over the year. It spurred Ormond to press for the new education centre, where children's imaginations can *first be caught in this* interactive gallery.

The first element is historical, a series of five islets dedicated to seafaring in the 8th, 16th, 18th and 19th centuries, with the present represented by Tracy Edwards's all-woman crew in *Maiden* for the 1989-90 Whitbread Round the World Race.

On each islet is a peephole box, and we discovered that Vikings crossed the North Sea carrying salt fish to eat, that *the crews of explorers such as* Sir Francis Drake were decimated by scurvy, that Nelson's midshipmen ate biscuits full of worms. We felt the size and weight of the huge rivets *which held Brunel's Great Eastern* together, and were delighted to find that Edwards's *crew each had* a "comfort box" which included a clean pair of knickers.

All this is firmly but unobtrusively linked to key stage areas in the National Curriculum, and almost every item has a physics lesson as well as an historical one.

Then come the various communications systems, from semaphore to radio, then "cargo handling", Adam's second *favourite. Children are steve*dores transferring bundles of different weights from a pallet *onto a boat floating on gim*bals. If they load it wrongly, the thing capsizes, klaxons sound, red *lights flash* and everybody knows who did it.

We found out about propulsion, how the shape of a *propeller affects its efficiency,* how pistons work and how a sail should be positioned to get *the best push from the wind.* For older children there is computerised pilotage — navigating a *ship out of a narrow* harbour avoiding sand banks; harbour walls and other moving *vessels*. We soon ran aground and hurried on to gunnery. For this, the hands *sit before a cannon to* fire at a target they can only see on a computer screen. They have five *shots, adjusting their tra*jectory to take in wind direction, distance and deck movement. Few hit the target.

On hand all the time are "explainers", who are all graduates and whose duties are less to police than to instruct. According to one of them, Jenny Riley, "things only seem to go wrong when adults have a go". Such as the experiment in which a diver's work is simulated by putting your hands through huge gloves into a tank in which you have to connect two ends of an *almost invisible* cable. The worst culprits, for some reason, are French teenagers.

"I *liked the divers, and* loading the ship, and blowing the sail," was Adam's judgement, but inevitably: "I liked shooting the cannon best, even if I didn't hit anything."

THE SECRETS OF THE DEEP

- Admission to the National Maritime Museum, Greenwich, London SE10 9NF costs £5 for adults, £3 for children, with no *further charge for All Hands.*
- The museum is open from 10am to 5pm daily. *All Hands* is open to the public from 2.30 to 5pm on term-time weekdays, with the mornings reserved for school parties.
- The museum's education and interpretation group offers teachers special programmes highlighting National Curriculum and GCSE aspects. *Further information* can be obtained by calling the bookings unit on 0181-312 6608/6651. The museum's general telephone number is 0181-858 4422.

NEW ON VIDEO: Released at last, Tarantino's blood-soaked debut and Brando's wild biker

■ RESERVOIR DOGS
PolyGram, 18, 1992
"QUENTIN who?" we all wondered when this blood-soaked thriller first appeared. Those were the days. *Since* then Tarantino has conquered the world, and he knows it. But in his directorial debut there is none of the big-budget swagger that mars *Pulp Fiction*: the aftermath of a botched jewel robbery is charted with precision, *acid wit and quirky intelligence*. Harvey Keitel heads the hardened criminals as the level-headed Mr White; but *Michael Madsen steals the show as the* soft-spoken psychopath, dancing to a radio DJ while torturing his hostage cop. Available to rent, at long last.

■ BEN-HUR: A TALE OF CHRIST
MGM/UA, PG, 1926
MGM poured a record $4 million into this thundering epic, with Ramon Novarro as the Jewish prince who avenges *himself* against the Roman Empire. Acting quality seesaws, but *second-unit director* Breezy Eason keeps the chariot race and sea battle exciting; they are in no way eclipsed by *the late 1950s remake. The print*, prepared by Kevin Brownlow and David Gill, includes ten short scenes in two-strip Technicolor with a musical score by Carl Davis.

■ BLANCHE
Connoisseur, PG, 1971
MADE midway during the director's transformation from dazzling Polish *animator to arty European pornogra*pher, Walerian Borowczyk's live-action masterpiece casts a spell from the opening *shots* of a medieval castle, a fluttering caged dove and a vulnerable young lady dressing after her bath. The theme is imprisonment, well evoked by Borowczyk's unique shooting style, with its shallow focus and emphasis on objects. Spirited perfor*mances from Ligia Branice and the* gargoyle-like Michel Simon; the raw 13th-century music adds to the power of this extraordinary film.

■ ON THE WATERFRONT
Columbia TriStar, PG, 1954
A HOLLYWOOD milestone, with its controversial subject (labour racketeers), raw location photography, tough writing (Budd Schulberg), powerful music by Leonard Bernstein and showy star actor (Marlon Brando). "The best male performance I've ever seen," said the film's director, Elia Kazan, *though Brando's Method man*nerisms sometimes loom too large.

■ SABOTAGE
VCI Cinema Club, PG, 1936
HITCHCOCK was at his British peak in this chilling version of Conrad's *The Secret Agent*, about a London family torn apart by anarchist activities. Hitch brilliantly manipulates the suspense, juggles *mischievously* with the audience's emotions and drenches scenes with sights and sounds of suburban London. John Loder provides something of a blot with his *sappy detective, in love with cinema*-owner Oscar Homolka's wife; but Sylvia Sidney's querulous manner hits exactly the right note of queasy unease.

■ THE WILD ONE
Columbia TriStar, PG, 1953
ALL *Hollywood* biker *movies* begin with Stanley Kramer's famous production, featuring Marlon Brando as the *drifter whose gang runs amok in a* small town. Compared to their screen descendants, they now look like boy scouts, but the film's portrait of middle America remains strikingly sour. And Brando is forever watchable. Banned in Britain until 1968, partly because it violated the old Hollywood *rule* that crime does not pay.

GEOFF BROWN

Get set for Fame

THE TIMES
THE THEATRE CLUB

THE *most* eagerly awaited musical of 1995, *Fame* is about to begin what is sure to be a long run at the Cambridge Theatre in London's West End. Inspired by Alan Parker's original 1980 film, the show follows the lives of students at the famous New York High School for the Performing Arts. As can be expected from a show that won Oscars for Best Song — *Fame* itself, a huge hit for Irene Cara — and Best Score, the music is as spectacular as the acting and dancing.

On June 23 Theatre Club members can see the show, then enjoy a two-course dinner with half a bottle of wine and coffee, followed by late-night cabaret at the new Centre Stage restaurant, directly opposite the theatre. Tickets are £49.50. Telephone 0800 335588 to book

HOW TO BOOK — AND JOIN

TO BOOK, please phone the listed number during normal office hours. The price printed on the ticket you receive will be the special price negotiated by the Theatre *Club. There may be a transaction charge to cover postage* **TO JOIN** the Theatre Club either send a cheque for £12.50, made payable to The Theatre Club, together with your name, address and telephone number to The Theatre Club, P.O. Box 2164, Colchester CO2 8JL, or telephone 01206 791737 using your credit card. For general inquiries call 0171-387 9673

ALL HUMAN LIFE, LOVE, HATE AND SONG IS HERE

LONDON
Apollo Theatre
June 12-15
● PETER BOWLES and Lisa Harrow *star* in Terence Rattigan's sublime *In Praise of Love*. It tells the story of *Lydia Cruttwell, who keeps* the knowledge of her incurable disease from her husband — *but he already* knows. This is a play of heartrending warmth and humour, *showing the true* nature of love. Club members can buy two tickets for the price of one (normally £20). Telephone 0171-494 5070

Bush Theatre
June 7-July 8
● PAUL COPLEY and Tessa Peake-Jones star in *Crossing the Equator*. The passengers *on SS Straithard set sail for* Australia, leaving behind the rain and postwar England, on a funny and turbulent voyage of discovery. Tickets £6 (normally £9.50). Tel 0181-743 3388

Etcetera Theatre
June 13-18
● THOMAS HEYWOOD'S tragedy, *A Women Killed with Kindness*, tells the story of Anne Frankford, a newlywed who succumbs to an affair with *her husband's* best friend — with tragic consequences. Club members can buy two £7 tickets for the price of one. Tel 0171-482 4857

EDINBURGH
King's Theatre
June 13-15
● AGATHA CHRISTIE'S *Black Coffee* launches a season of six thrillers, one a week until *July 22*. This classic by the queen of crime writers features her most popular detective, Hercule Poirot. *Tickets half price (normally* £6). Tel 0131-220 4349

NEWCASTLE
Playhouse
June 12-17
● *NORTHERN STAGE* presents Anthony Burgess's own stage adaptation of his futuristic novel, *A Clockwork Orange*. Alex, a young *man*, imprisoned for his violent crimes, undergoes terrifying aversion therapy before he can be released. Theatre Club members can buy two tickets for the price of one (normally *£9 to £12.50), subject to avail*ability. Tel 0191-230 5151

HULL
Hull Truck Theatre
June 6-April 1
● JACK and his wife Liz have spent a lifetime of hard-earned *holidays* in Blackpool, where they stay in a boarding house, eat chips on the front and paddle in the *sea. In John Godber's* bitter-sweet comedy, *September in the Rain*, they look back on their life together as they *make their annual pilgrim*age to the seaside resort. Two tickets for the price of one (normally £7.50). Tel 01482 323638

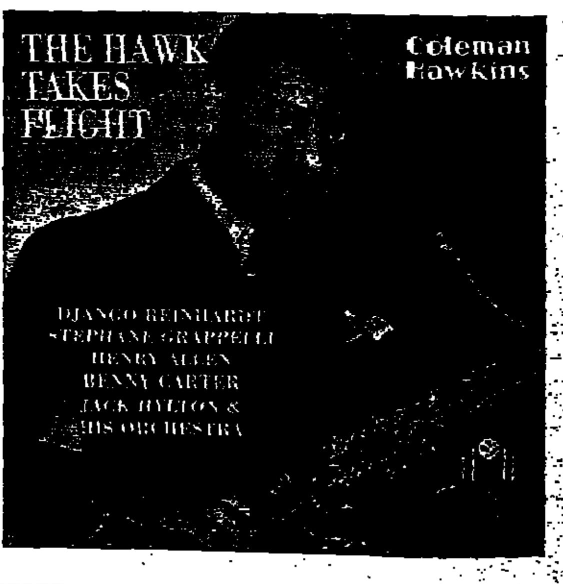
SOUTHAMPTON
Mayflower
July 19-September 2
● PAUL NICHOLAS stars as Hollywood heart-throb *Don Lockwood, whose career* as a silent movie star is threatened by the arrival of *the talkies, in the spectacular* musical comedy *Singin' In The Rain*. Directed by Tommy Steele, the *show* is based on the classic film and includes all of its memorable songs (the title number is *performed in the most* sensational downpour ever seen on a stage). Members can buy two £19.50 tickets for the price of one for Monday evening performances throughout the run. Tel 01703 229771

BOURNEMOUTH
Pier Theatre
Until June 29
● JAN HUNT, *Jacqui Toye*, Trevor Bannister and Peter John star in a double helping of seaside entertainment. *Seaside Postcard* is a hilarious comedy by Terence Frisby, author of *There's A Girl In My Soup*, and the *same performers* also pay tribute to the golden age of music hall. Two £9 tickets for the price *of one. Tel 01202* 297297

The WH Smith featured CD

This week's Times/WH Smith recommended recording is Coleman Hawkins' The Hawk Takes Flight, showcasing the talents of one the greatest tenor sax players. Coleman Hawkins spent five years in Europe, playing with Jack Hylton, Django Reinhardt, Stephane Grappelli and others. This representative 25-track CD collects a number of classic sides from his European recordings of 1934-1939.

Take the coupon below to a WH Smith music counter and you can obtain this CD at a £3 saving on the normal price of £9.99. Offer valid until July 8, 1995.



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RECORDINGS: Proof that they don't write them like they used to; Liszt's homage to Schubert; putting the sexiness back into operetta

David Sinclair

■ DARYLL-ANN
You're So Vain
Hut/Virgin HUTDG 58★★
☐ KIRSTY MACCOLL & EVAN DANDO
Perfect Day
Virgin VSCDT 1552★★

DUTCH indie-rock group Daryll-Ann strip down the old Carly Simon song, *You're So Vain* (who *was* she talking about?), and rebuild it with a wonderfully sinewy, tom-tom driven arrangement and Neil Young-style guitar solo, while preserving the sophisticated melody intact.

Meanwhile, Kirsty MacColl and chief Lemonhead Evan Dando join voices, hands and hearts to produce a gooey version of Lou Reed's sleepily euphoric tune *Perfect Day*, which although well sung, is rather swamped by an overactive string arrangement.

But both songs are blessed with a timeless appeal, and there is plenty of ammunition here to please the "they don't write them like they used to" brigade.

David Sinclair

■ BJÖRK
Post
One Little Indian Records TPLP51★★

THE success of Björk's first solo album, *Debut* — two Brits and two and a half million copies sold — was all the more satisfying for being so unexpected. Nobody could have accused the Icelandic chanteuse with a voice as sweet and sour as summer fruit of trying to be anything she was not.

A lot more is riding on the follow-up, the aptly named *Post*, and it is to Björk's credit that she has ignored the temptation either to rein in her eccentricities or create some impenetrable monument to the indie avant-garde.

Arguably, the oddest thing on the album is her version of an old show tune, *It's Oh So Quiet*, originally recorded by the wartime Hollywood star Betty Hutton. Björk's voice is well suited to the song's riotous extremes of emotion — "*You blow a fuse/Zing boom/The devil cuts loose/* Zing Boom" — while her use of English as a second language results in some spectacularly mangled phrasing that lends a quirky charm to the conventional big-band arrangement.

Elsewhere on the album, which is again produced by Nellee Hooper, Björk's delivery encompasses a range of conflicting emotions, while conveying a constant sense of wonder and adventure. "I'm going to prove the impossible really exists," she insists on *Cover Me*, while a harpsichord delicately battles against the sound of an electrical storm gathering in the distance.

Her songs are built like crazy paving, carefully pieced together out of unlikely, angular musical shapes, and on *Enjoy* and *Headphones*, both co-written with man-of-the-moment Tricky, she puts her own unique spin on the trip-hop experience.

Another brave and compelling collection, *Post* suggests that Björk has both moved at her own speed and kept up with the times.

Perfect day: Kirsty MacColl has teamed up with Evan Dando to revive a Lou Reed classic

Clive Davis

■ ANTONIO CARLOS JOBIM
Antonio Brasileiro
Columbia 476281-2★★★

NOBODY will know how the studio meeting between Antonio Carlos Jobim and Joe Henderson, planned for last year, might have turned out: illness forced the Brazilian to withdraw. Henderson nevertheless managed to finish work on a tribute to Jobim, *Double Rainbow*, released a few months ago. As for *Antonio Brasileiro* — recorded shortly before the composer's death in December — the traditional virtues of eloquence, guileless melody and subtle embellishment make for idyllic summer listening.

At his most sophisticated, Jobim was a walking definition of that amorphous term "world music". His creations are *sui generis*, a combination of muted jazz harmonies, light but insistent pop hooks and a refined folk sensibility. The unobtrusive settings for cello and flute, and the stately string-driven instrumentals, add to the impression that we have passed into a realm where normal categories have been suspended.

New versions of two of his most popular compositions find their way onto this collection. *Só Danço Samba* bounces along with the help of lilting female backing vocals (another of his trademarks) and takes an all too brief detour through Stan Kenton's *Intermission Riff*. Sting is the guest performer on the English-language rendition of the plaintive *Insensatez*.

Jobim's sentimental streak gets the better of him on the coy *Samba de Maria Luiza* and the predictable eco-sentiments of *Forever Green*. He quickly regains his balance, however, closing with the compelling staccato rhythms of *Trem de Ferro*, an hypnotic setting of a poem by Manoel Bandeira.

☐ PETE LA ROCA
Basra
Blue Note CDP-8320912★★★

THE presence of the aforementioned Joe Henderson is one unimpeachable reason for seeking out this fascinating 1965 quartet session, reissued as part of the limited edition Connoisseur series. Another is the haunting treatment of the Latouche-Moross ballad *Lazy Afternoon*.

A highly disciplined drummer who subsequently abandoned a full-time career in music in order to practise law, La Roca urges his musicians forward without resorting to polyrhythmic overkill; even his standard blues tune marches to an unorthodox beat quite distinct from the usual Blue Note formula.

Steve Swallow and Steve Kuhn play a full part in what is a truly collective venture, not a mere blowing session.

Hilary Finch

■ LISZT
The Schubert Transcriptions Vols 2 and 3
Leslie Howard
Hyperion CDA 66954/6 & 66957/9★★★

WITHIN his own massive survey of Liszt's piano music (already 60 discs released out of a projected 80), Leslie Howard has just completed his three volumes (three discs each) of the composer's loving transcriptions of Schubert.

The wonder of the art of transcription lies not only in its variety — from simple arrangements to total re-creations — but in our being able to experience vicariously the responses of one composer to another. Volume Two contains the selections Liszt made from Schubert's great song cycles. The songs from *Die Schöne Müllerin* give a sense of eavesdropping on quiet, delighted improvisations; *Winterreise* is reverent, but cannot resist vivid splashes of greasepaint in the form of ingenious, evocative figuration (the storm threatening the *Lindenbaum*, for instance).

For *Schwanengesang*, though, Schubert's swansongs, one can almost feel Liszt genuflecting. Little is done but to reveal these pieces as the great musical works they are, through the cunning and eloquent interplay of registers and voices.

In Volume Three, Howard offers Liszt's second version of *Die Schöne Müllerin*, alternative versions for several songs in the other cycles, and a generous compilation of Schubert's greatest hits. The two voices within *Erlkönig* are counterpointed in a hair-raising narrative, while Liszt exploits the already exquisite dappling of water and light in *Auf dem Wasser zu singen*, until it romps away in its own rhapsodic right.

Howard: generous selection

OPERETTA

John Higgins

■ OPERETTA DUETS
Hendricks/Quilico/Lyons Opera Orchestra/Foster
EMI Classics 5 55151 2 4 (1 CD)★★

BARBARA HENDRICKS and Gino Quilico seem to seek the half-forgotten world of Anne Ziegler and Webster Booth at the start of this agreeable recital. Out come the songs from *Rose Marie* and *The Desert Song* and others spun by those old refugees of the central European coffee houses, Friml and Romberg. Fortunately they soon move on to classier material.

The French section is especially good, with the two hits from Messager's *Véronique*, the Swing Song and the Donkey Duet. Reynaldo Hahn's *Ciboulette* still comes over as a very refined piece. But some of the other French composers of the interwar years went in for material that was much sexier. Yvain and Christiné were among them and the latter's *Phi-Phi*, a kind of *A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum*, had to be cleaned up considerably before it came to London. Hendricks and Quilico put the suggestiveness right back into both composers.

Hendricks: suggestiveness

The closing Viennese selection is more familiar, but it is a pleasure to hear Heuberger's *Im chambre separée* as a complete scene rather than as a song for soprano. There are a couple of weaknesses: Hendricks has not the agility for the *galop* from Offenbach's *Barbe-bleue* and Quilico finds a couple of numbers written for tenor rather than baritone steep going. Otherwise they adapt with easy charm and linguistic fluency to three different styles. The Lyons Orchestra is heard at its best on home French territory.

☐ MESSAGER
La Basoche, Fortunio
LECOCQ
Le Petit Duc
Extracts with Berton/Legay/Clément/Dens
EMI Classic 5 68295 2 7 (2 CDs)★★

MORE slices of operetta come on the Belle Epoque label. Messager is strongly represented by *La Basoche*, one of his most substantial pieces despite a twaddly plot involving British royalty. Henri Legay is in silken form as the poet Marot who becomes involved with England's Princess Mary. Liliane Berton's perky Colette sets things right.

The same composer's *Fortunio* is less inspired, but Lecocq's *Le Petit Duc* is an inviting curiosity, not least because the duke in question (who is only 18) and his intended duchess are both female cast. Liliane Berton and Nadine Renaux make a musically pretty pair long before Strauss started thinking about Octavian and the Marschallin. Lecocq uses quite a lot of Mozart pastiche, but includes some comic numbers and a glorious pages' chorus. All very camp and well worth a revival.

ORCHESTRAL

Barry Millington

■ SPOHR
Clarinet Concertos Nos 1 & 3
Ottensamer/Slovak State Philharmonic Orchestra/Wildner
Naxos 8.550688★★★

THOUGH enormously popular in his day, much of Louis Spohr's output is now regarded as little more than an historical curiosity. The four clarinet concertos, however, of which two are heard on this budget-price Naxos disc, are an exception. They have retained their place in the repertoire alongside those of his contemporary Weber (with whom Spohr is momentarily confused in an otherwise excellent booklet note). And rightly so, for these works are full of melodic appeal and invention.

Both pieces on this disc are in minor keys, lending an element of drama and Romantic sensibility to a basically conservative harmonic idiom. Both, too, are virtuoso works, though not ostentatiously so; indeed, the C minor ends on a curiously subdued note. They are beautifully played by Ernst Ottensamer, who is fully in command technically as well as alert to the expressive qualities of the music.

☐ STENHAMMAR
Symphonies Nos 1 & 2; Serenade in F; Excelsior!
Gothenburg Symphony Orchestra/Järvi
DG 445 857-2 (2 CDs)★★★

THIS double CD offers a most attractive introduction to the music of the Romantic Swedish composer Wilhelm Stenhammar (1871-1927). His harmonic language is ripely post-Wagnerian, with overtones of Sibelius and Nielsen.

The early First Symphony (1902-03) was later disowned by Stenhammar as being too derivative of his 19th-century predecessors. There are indeed very Brucknerian passages at the end of the second and fourth movements, but perhaps a stronger reservation might concern the lack of conflicts and tensions that generally characterise a symphony, as well as an overlong, undisciplined finale. Nevertheless, this is inventive, fluently melodious music.

With the Serenade and Second Symphony, both from a slightly later period (1911-15), we are on stronger ground. The inspiration for the Serenade came while Stenhammar was visiting Florence in spring 1907 and depicts the northerner's longing for the sunny climes of the south. The warmly glowing, subtle colouring of his orchestration contrasts with the dazzling brilliance of, say, a Respighi. The Waltz is particularly ravishing, but the Gothenburgers make the whole suite an enchanting experience.

Järvi: enchanting experience

The Second Symphony melds folk idioms, modal harmonies and mellow late Romantic harmonies with a strong sense of driving momentum (especially in the finale). This is exhilarating stuff, superbly performed.

★ *Worth hearing*
★★ *Worth considering*
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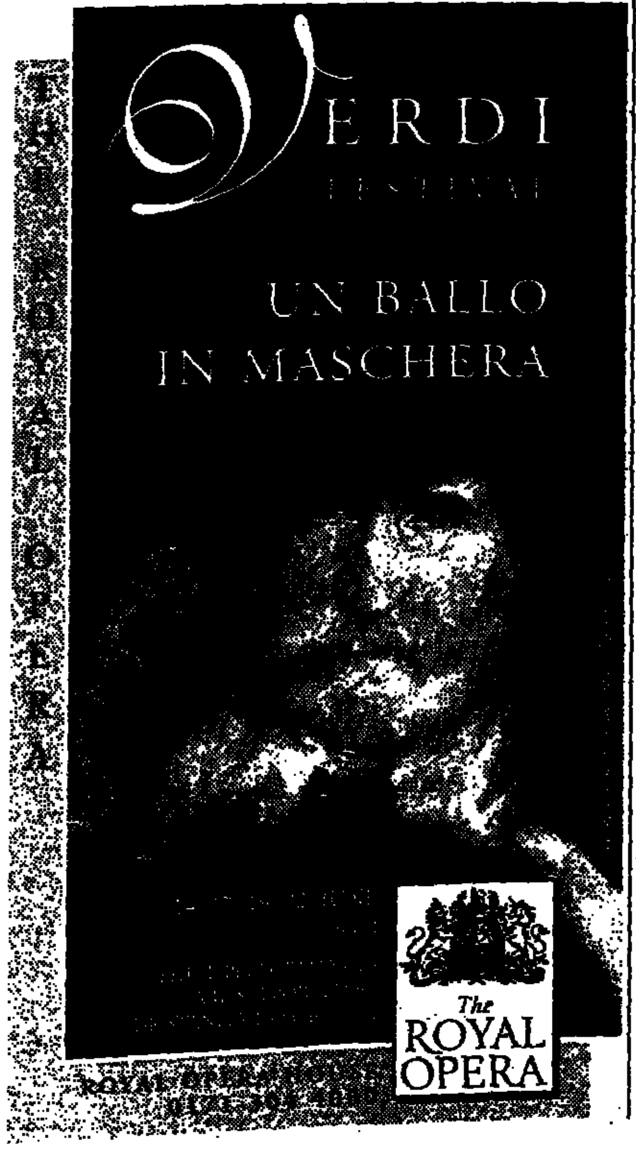

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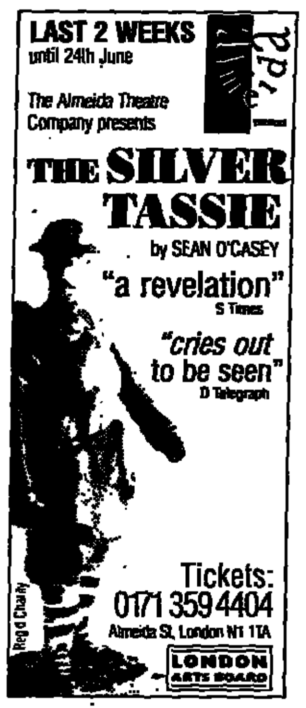

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Pots of distinction

Care is needed with ornamental pots and urns, says **George Plumptre**, The Times Gardener

Sales of garden pots and urns are dominated by volume rather than quality, and terracotta is the most popular. A 12in pot can cost as little as £6, but you are better off spending between £15 and £20 for something larger which has better frost protection. Even so, terracotta is best stored indoors in winter rather than left outside as a year-round ornament.

If you are prepared to make an investment, there are a number of urns which will make a big impact in your garden. I particularly admire the fibreglass range made by Capital Garden Products, of Ticehurst, East Sussex. The fibreglass is treated to give a realistic appearance of weathered bronze, lead or terracotta. Most of the range is modelled on classical originals, such as the Medici urn, but they have the advantage of being light weight, making them ideal for a roof garden or apartment terrace. I have an urn with a bronze finish which stands 2ft high but, when empty, can easily be carried with one hand. The firm's smallest urn (8in high) costs £34, and the impressively decorated Medici urn (30in high) £356.

Lead, traditionally favoured by British craftsmen, is the weightiest material for garden ornaments, and the Bulbeck Foundry, of Burwell, Cambridge, offers a range of these. Lead's texture offsets plants superbly, and Bulbeck's products, again modelled on classical originals, are sufficiently imposing or decorative to stand empty as well-positioned ornaments.

A lead urn is handsome but expensive. Bulbeck's small "House of Dun" urn (16½in high) costs £250, and its latest product, the "Hampton Court" urn (30in high), modelled on an original made for William III's garden at Hampton Court, costs £1,250.

Bulbeck Foundry's 30in-high "Hampton Court" leaden urn is a reproduction of one made for William III, and costs £1,250

Reconstituted stone has been the most successful material for quality garden ornaments made by Haddonstone, of East Haddon, Northampton, which offers a big range of urns, jardinieres and decorative planters. Like the other firms, Haddonstone reproduces antique originals.

The reconstituted limestone mix, which is moulded into various shapes and decorations, comes in four finishes ranging from grey Portland through pale and dark sandstone (Bath and Cotswold) to terracotta. The items are suitable for planting or as decorative ornaments, and range in price from about £60 for a small urn (15in high) to about £300 for the largest urns and jardinieres, some of which stand 3-4ft high.

Whereas the mix-and-match approach is often best applied to a cluster of varied terracotta pots on a terrace, continuity is more effective with any of these expensive ornamental urns, so buy them singly or in matching pairs. With the highly decorated ones, do not make the planting too busy with different colours and shapes; offset urn patterns with a simple mix of foliage and, for example, blue and white flowers or single reds or pinks.

Whatever style of pot you buy, the main priorities are to ensure good drainage and constant moisture and nutrients. The latter two can be helped by mixing water-retaining granules into the compost with some slow-release fertiliser, such as Osmocote. (One reason why pot-grown pelargoniums are so successful is their ability to thrive with minimal moisture and nutrients.) Basic drainage is ensured by having one or more holes in a pot or urn's base. Adding a pile of broken tiles or china prevents the holes becoming blocked with compost.

Only in the largest urns or planters is garden soil a satisfactory growing medium, and even then it should ideally be mixed with compost. In smaller pots or urns, regular watering will quickly cause garden earth to compact and restrict root growth. Because your plants are most likely to have been bought in a plastic container, root expansion needs to be as easy as possible. Earth is also a great deal heavier than its equivalent volume of compost.

Traditional growing mediums are peat-based, such as J.R. Bower's Hanging Basket and Container Compost (about £3.75 per 15-litre bag). Peat-free alternatives include Nature's Own Potting compost (£5.35 per 15-litre bag) in the Organic Gardening Catalogue (01932 820958).

Planting needs care. If your pot has a narrow top, the number of plants needs to be restricted to only one or two, one of which trails down the side of the pot. *Convolvulus sabatius*, which has small, pale-blue flowers and is best grown as an annual, is ideal.

If your pot has room for a number of plants, start planting in the centre and work out to the edges. Do not fill your pot with compost, or chosen growing medium, and then try to force in the plants: start with a base layer and fill in around the plants as they are put in. Ensure they are set deep enough for the tops of the root ball to be covered and only fill the pot to within an inch or two of the top. Over filling will mean that the growing mixture is constantly washed over the sides as you water.

● Prices quoted include VAT. For information and catalogues, contact Capital Garden Products, Gibbs Reed Barn, Ticehurst, East Sussex TN5 7HE (01580 201092); Bulbeck Foundry, Unit 9, Reach Industrial Estate, Burwell, Cambridge CR50AH (01638 743153); Haddonstone, Forge House, Church Lane, East Haddon, Nottingham NN6 8DV(01604 770711).

WEEKEND TIPS

- *Stop cutting asparagus; let the stems grow, and feed the beds with organic fertiliser.*
- *Plant outdoor tomatoes and tender vegetables, such as courgettes. Both will thrive in growbags but, as these are unsightly, the bags can be buried under the soil of your vegetable patch. Alternatively, Frolics of Winchester (01962 856384) sells a smart box the size of a standard growbag.*
- *Prune established spring-flowering shrubs after they have bloomed, losing up to 25 per cent of old branches at the base.*
- *Most house plants will benefit from a spell outdoors in a sheltered corner, but bring them in during bad weather.*

GARDEN ANSWERS

STEPHEN ANDERTON replies to readers' letters

Q How can I get rid of hogweed? A child could walk into it and get skin burns. — M. C. Clark, Gosforth, Tyne & Wear.

A The giant hogweed, *Heracleum mantegazzianum*, is an extraordinary, statuesque and beautiful plant. Unfortunately, its leaves and sap can cause serious skin blisters, which appear a day or so after contact. Some people are more sensitive to its attack than others. The reaction is photosensitive, so wash and cover up affected skin.

Hogweed, like all cow parsley relatives, has a hollow stem. If you first cut off the tops, wearing protective clothing, you can then kill the root by putting a teaspoon of salt into the hollow stump. This is a safer and more effective method than trying to spray plants, which can grow to 8ft tall. The remnants can be composted. Like cow parsley, the plant produces many seeds. Hoe the seedlings off or, if they have grown slightly larger, brush the leaves with glyphosate.

If you like the plant sufficiently, it will be easy to reintroduce it from seed when the children are older. Seed can be bought from John Carter, Rowden Gardens, Brentnor, Tavistock, Devon EX16 7EW.

Finally, some people are to a lesser extent affected by the other common member of the genus, *Heracleum sphondylium*, the cow parsnip. Blistering from both plants leaves a brown stain which can last for months.

Q *I have a well-grown Azalea lutea*, but half its flower buds go black and do not open. Is this bud blast? I take out dead buds, but it does not improve matters. — M. S. Alcock, Sowton, Exeter, Devon.

A This does sound like bud blast, a fungal disease which dries out the flower buds of rhododendrons (*Azalea lutea* is properly known as *Rhododendron luteum*), turning them from brown to black in winter. By spring, the blackened buds are covered in minute black prickles, organs of the fungus itself. *R. luteum* may not be the most delicately flowered of azaleas — it is orangey yellow — but it is one of the most powerfully scented garden shrubs, and well worth looking after.

Hygiene is the first method of attack, quickly removing and burning the damaged buds. But, as you say, this is not always sufficient to cure it: reinfection may occur from rhododendrons in neighbouring gardens. So, as further insurance, spray with Bordeaux mixture just before the flowers open, and continue the treatment once a month through the season. As most rhododendron leaves are shiny and sprays run from the surface, add a little washing-up liquid to the mixture, as a wetting agent. This will allow the spray droplets to remain as a thin film on the leaf surface.

Q Can you recommend a prostrate conifer to fill a 6ft space in my rockery? It must not be more than 15-18in high, and I want the best. — Jack Ferguson, Rainham, Essex.

A There are not many prostrate conifers which, when they eventually reach a width of 6ft, are still only 18in tall. Nor will they fill the space quickly, because they will be (relatively) dwarf forms, used to growing slowly in harsh, natural conditions. Forms of *Juniperus horizontalis* are very flat ('Glauca' and 'Bar Harbor' are of the blue tint), and forms of *J. x media* arch up above 18in. *J. sabina* 'Tamariscifolia' or *Microbiota decussata* would fit the bill, and they are relatively fast growers, but in the end will still only make a green slab of foliage.

I suggest that you plant something other than a conifer, something which would at least offer you some flower. You might try a group of three *Halimiocistus sahucii*, a low-growing evergreen which covers itself in white "rock rose" flowers in May and June, and will stay under your height restriction. They will also fill the space much faster.

Q Would a mulch of wood chips on my borders bring the risk of introducing honey fungus? — Christine Chambers, Warwick.

A The best wood chips are pre-composted and the heat of composting should destroy the fungus. A surface mulch in a sunny, open position, where the fungus is not already present, is a safe enough bet. The fungus spores may find the chips after they have been spread in your garden, but I believe the benefits of a wood or bark mulch outweigh the risks. Where honey fungus is known to exist in a garden, I would hesitate to spread a thick layer of wood chip, as it could help the black "boot-laces" of the fungus travel further.

Beware of using the debris from a chainsaw for mulching, as it contains machine oil which will damage roots.

● Readers wishing to have gardening problems answered should write to: Garden Answers, Weekend, The Times, 1 Pennington St, London E1 9XN. We regret that few personal answers can be given and that it may not be possible to deal with every request. Advice is offered without legal responsibility. The Times *regrets that enclosures accompanying letters cannot be returned.*

Gardens to visit this weekend

The 300-yard herbaceous borders at Newby Hall, Yorkshire

☐ Newby Hall, Ripon, North Yorkshire (01423 322583)

Four miles southeast of Ripon, on B6265. Open daily (except Mon) April-Sept, and Bank Hols, 11am-5.30pm. £3.50 (garden only), children £2.30.

Newby is one of England's supreme country house and garden combinations, and the 40 acres of grounds are well worth visiting at any time of year. From the elegant brick house, filled with treasures collected by the 18th-century connoisseur William Weddell, the gardens stretch south down a gentle slope to the river Ure. The garden was designed from 1923 by Major Edward Compton, the owner's father. He laid out the grand central axis of double herbaceous borders stretching for 300 yards in front of yew hedges, with paths leading off through the hedges into enclosures, woodland and water gardens behind. His son and daughter-in-law, Robin and Jane Compton, have increased the range of plants and replanted the double borders. At the moment, the borders have a perfect combination of early summer-flowering shrubs and perennials, and the fresh foliage of later-flowering plants. The Comptons have introduced the NCCPG national collection of cornus and many of these flowering dogwoods are out now.

☐ Clapton Court, Crewkerne, Somerset (01460 73220)

Three miles south of Crewkerne, on B3165. Open tomorrow, 11am-5pm. £3, children free.

Clapton Court has changed hands and its garden is no longer open on a regular basis. Tomorrow, however, it is open for the National Gardens Scheme. The garden divides into two distinct areas: formal terraces and enclosures hedged with yew and hornbeam close to the house, and a five-acre woodland garden reached by a path along the garden's main stream. The formal areas contain an immaculate rose garden and many unusual shrubs, while the woodland garden has plenty of fine specimen trees. Pride of place goes to an ash tree, which is more than 250 years old and said to be the largest ash in the country. Clapton has unusual flowering trees and the different styrax, with delicate white flowers, is out now. Among the most enjoyable features are the flowering and foliage aquatic plants along the stream; mixtures of hostas, astilbes, primulas and luxuriant lysichitons.

☐ Vaynor Park, Berriew, Powys (01686 640406)

Five miles south of Welshpool, on A483, and through Berriew village. Open tomorrow, 2-6pm. £1.50, children free.

Vaynor is a couple of miles from Powis Castle and enjoys breathtaking views across the Marches towards England. From Berriew village, the drive winds uphill through dramatic parkland to the house built of local red stone, partly 1680, with Victorian additions, which faces on to a walled courtyard with stables and a central arch at the far end. The main area of garden is a series of terraces and the most interesting feature is the broad grass terrace, which was laid out for archery and extends 230 yards, eventually sloping gently up to a stand of fir trees on the garden's boundary. High stone and brick walls provide backing for summer borders, richly planted with perennials in front of wall plants, such as mauve-flowered *Abutilon vitifolium*, climbing rose and clematis. On the lower terrace, there is a fan-shaped Victorian rose parterre, backed by Victorian cedars and evergreen holm oaks. The parterre has recently been replanted with roses and clipped box edging.

☐ Allangrange, Munlochy, Black Isle, Ross and Cromarty, Scotland (0146-381 249)

Five miles north of Inverness, off A 9. Open tomorrow and July 9, 2-5.30 pm. £1.50, children 20p.

The house overlooks a series of balustraded terraces linked by flights of stone steps in the centre and at both ends. At the bottom, the terraces merge on to lawns, with a fine collection of ornamental trees. On another side of the house is the woodland garden, and the balance between the formal terraces with borders and hedged enclosures, and the areas of lawn, trees and woodland, is the most enjoyable feature. On the terraces, the white garden with roses, lilies, silver-foliage plants and lush hostas is particularly good — its theme heightened by comparison with the mauve and yellow garden with potentillas, tree peonies and lavender. Roses abound in all parts of the terraced gardens, while different acers are prominent among the communal trees. In the woodland, rhododendrons are achieving maturity, and a number of blue-flowered Himalayan meconopsis captivate visitors.

G. P.

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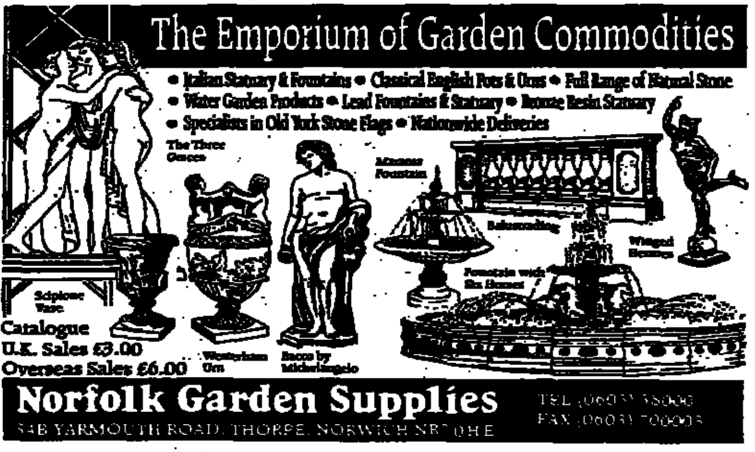
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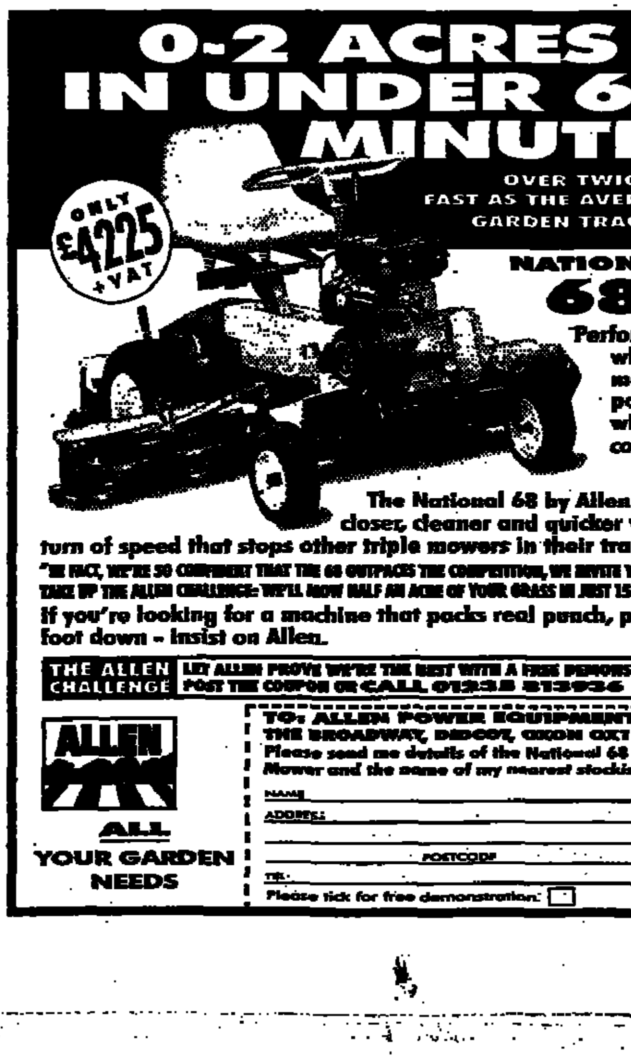
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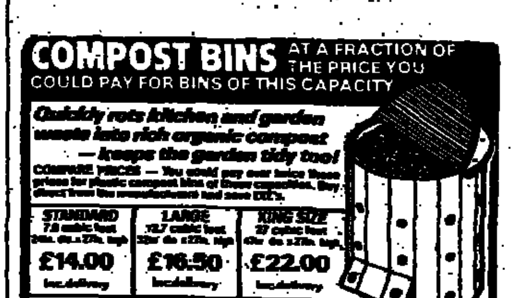
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Now is the month to turn over a new leaf in your conservatory, says **Patricia Morison**

Doing time in the glasshouse

GARDEN PICTURE LIBRARY

Terence Read (above) specialises in conservatory plants. The *Datura sanguinea*, although poisonous, has a heady nocturnal perfume

Midwinter is the orthodox time for articles about conservatories, in the belief that we are all desperate to escape the bleak reality of outdoors. However, now is the moment to look critically at the conservatory — to repot, restock, and maybe turn over a new leaf. In June, tender exotics are fairly leaping out of their pots — all those gorgeous plants such as passion flowers, oleanders, mandevillas and lapagerias. Bought this month, given a few weeks to acclimatise, and then potted on, your new conservatory treasures should grow like triffids.

I went to the balmy glasshouses of Hales Hall in Loddon, Norfolk, to ask Terence Read, a specialist in conservatory plants, to recommend species that are easy to grow and which will provide a year-round haven of exquisite colours and scents. If that sounds like an impossible dream, Mr Read is sympathetic. Many of his customers arrive lamenting their conservatories, costly "glass elephants" so ineptly designed that achieving even a scrawny plumbago is a miracle.

Ventilation is crucial because an inadequate air-flow brings a pack of problems. Conservatories should have ample top lights. If yours does not, Mr Read advises installing an extractor fan — always assuming that a supply of fresh air is coming in from somewhere. Otherwise, he warns: "In the coming months, many conservatories become like Arizona and plants' roots literally cook."

The Norfolk Reads have been in the nursery business for generations. In the 1960s, Mr Read's great-grandfather started growing melons, superb gold-netted strains of his own, which he produced 11 months of the year outside Norwich and sent up to London by train. He even supplied Norfolk melons to a maharajah in India.

Latest in the lineage of Reads Nurseries is Hales Hall, in the middle of nowhere on the site of a vanished medieval palace. The Reads's house was its domestic wing although, when they bought it 25 years ago, pigs were being kept upstairs and downstairs. The Reads also restored the largest brick barn in Britain, a magnificent 180ft-long structure built in the 1480s by the same grandee who built Blickling Hall, now owned by the National Trust. In its lee stands the half-acre nursery glasshouses, filled with a tempting array of plants.

White-flowered *Mandevilla suaveolens* is the choice for scent but *M. amoena* 'Alice du Pont' is a glorious evergreen with pink trumpets, modestly priced at £8.25. Passion flowers sound better than they are, for the fancier forms tend to be shy flowerers with overwhelming foliage. Most jasmines suffer from a similar defect, and *J. polanthum*, widely sold by florists, is over in a flash. However, flowers of the rare Arabian jasmine are large and appear most of the year if the winter temperature is kept at about 10C. 'Maid of Orleans' is a single, 'Grand Duke of Tuscany' is a double, and has a lovely perfume.

Among the shrubs, tibouchina is splendid, with large, velvety purple flowers, pleasing leaves and, given time and space, the potential to reach a height of 20ft. When young, it resents lime so you should use rainwater. For those who want the spice of danger, there are brugmansias ("Angels' Trumpets").

"Never tether your donkey under a datura," say the Mexicans. Datura is the old name for this species, poisonous but showy and with a heady nocturnal perfume. With them, the trick is to feed and feed. Again, the palette is wide: for high chic, apricot 'Grand Marnier' sports two-tone leaves edged with cream.

If space is short, clivias are very easy to grow and their solid bulk of strap-like leaves have presence. Around the world, breeders are busy widening or shrinking the clivia's familiar orange trumpet, turning it red, yellow or white. Mr Read hears of Japanese growers selling new clivias for £1,500. He, too, is breeding but his best new forms (not yet in the catalogue), are more modest at around £80. A large *Clivia miniata* costs £25. Mine is ten years old and lives in the bathroom, but clivias are happy just about anywhere.

Care in the conservatory

☐ Reads Nursery, Hales Hall, Loddon, Norfolk NR14 6QW (01508 548305). The nursery is open Tuesday to Saturday, 10am-1pm and 2-5pm, Sundays 2-5pm (not in winter). For the catalogue, send four first-class stamps. Plants are supplied by mail order.

☐ Potting on and feeding: for lime-hating plants, Mr Read recommends using a John Innes formula compost No. 2 or 3, and adding to it 20 per cent by volume of Cambark Peat and Bark Professional Potting Compost. This helps to keep the soil structure open. It is sold by independent garden centres at around £6.99 for 75 litres. For feeding, he recommends the Chempak range.

Henry Doubleday's new organic garden

After Ryton comes a plot showing the history of green gardening

THE Henry Doubleday Research Association (HDRA), the largest organic gardening organisation in Europe, has a new garden in Yalding, Kent. It aims to become an educational record of the history of green gardening — but the project is proving to be a challenge.

The idea started with Donald Cooper and his wife, Pixie, of Yalding. In the 1960s and 1970s Mr Cooper did well out of his packaging business, while his wife became a devotee of organic gardening. Her enthusiasm persuaded Mr Cooper to start growing organic vegetables as a business venture, selling them to supermarkets.

Peter Bateman, project manager, in the 1950s allotment garden

Shortly before Mr Cooper's death in 1992 he gave the HDRA a ten-acre field, a long lease on a house for a gardener and a substantial donation. Work on the project began in August 1992. Deciding the lay-out was the easy part. There would be a stretch of woodland and a series of gardens, including a 13th-century apothecary's; a 16th-century Tudor knot; a late 19th-century artisan's; Edwardian herbaceous borders; a post-Second World War allotment: organic fruit and vegetables; and one for children. A large pond will attract the wildlife needed for pest control, such as frogs and toads.

The practicalities of this project have been fraught with problems. When the HDRA moved to Warwickshire in 1985 and created the now-famous organic garden at Ryton near Coventry, the garden, at the foot of a hill, had to be protected from wind and frost. The one at Yalding is in a similar location, and the nearest windbreak is half a mile away. To compensate for lack of protection against wind and frost a holly hedge has been incorporated in the 13th-century garden and 10,000 whips in the mini "forest". The HDRA has also created a shelter belt of native trees. In the short term, they are having to use several thousand yards of temporary netting as an additional windbreak.

The soil is also causing problems. The garden at Ryton is blessed with sandy, malleable loam; in Yalding it is heavy clay. Peter Bateman, the project manager of Yalding Gardens, says: "The moisture content of the soil can change so much in a few hours it is difficult to create a tilth for sowing." The Yalding gardeners are having to ply the plot with organic matter — mainly compost made on site — to make the soil manageable.

"Although the gardens are in their infancy there is plenty to interest everyone. By high summer our celosias, amaranthus and mignonettes will be looking wonderful," Mr Bateman says.

Given enough sunshine, water and a sprinkling of luck, Yalding Gardens will be blooming.

JESSICA GORST-WILLIAMS

● *Yalding Organic Gardens, Benover Road, Yalding, Maidstone, Kent, ME18 6EX (01622 814650).*

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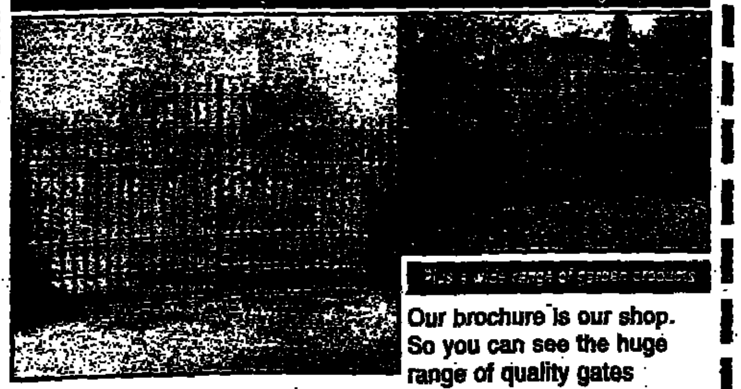

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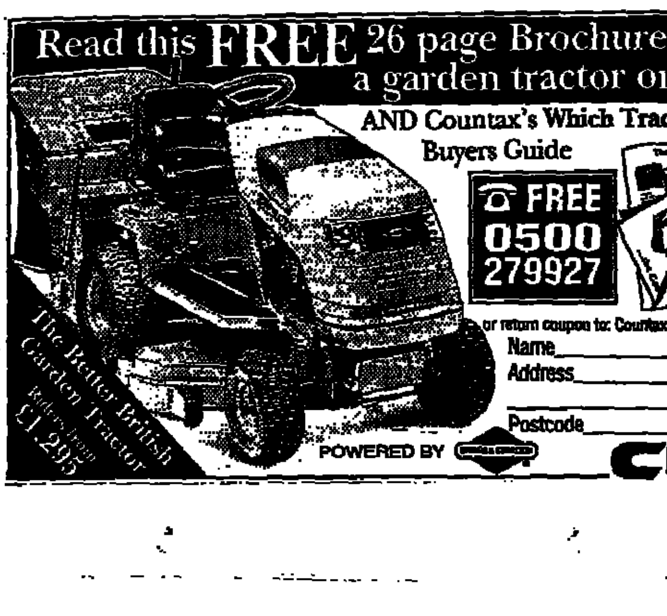

STARTING TODAY THE TIMES OFFERS READERS THE CHANC

A holiday hideaway for life

Four readers will win a week's holiday accommodation every year for life, with access to 2,900 resorts in 80 countries through RCI

Today The Times offers readers the chance to win luxury holiday accommodation in a beautiful location. The four winners of our competition will receive a week's holiday accommodation each year for the rest of their lives, in a luxury timeshare home at a location in one of four countries: Scotland, Portugal, Spain or the United States. The four prizes are offered by The Times in conjunction with the holiday exchange company RCI. Winners, and their family or friends, will stay for one week each year in a private retreat beside a sparkling loch, or an apartment on the Costa del Sol, a private club on the Algarve, or a villa in Florida.

Part of the prize is three years' membership of RCI, which means that for this period the four winners can exchange the time won for holidays at alternative timeshare resorts in the RCI network, in the Far East, the Caribbean, India and other parts of the world.

Choosing where to stay will not be difficult. As RCI members, winners will be able to bank their time and request a week at one of the 2,900 resorts in the network. They could pick places for holidays in the sun, or winter sports, or a walking break, from locations in 80 countries.

Alternatively, our winners can visit their resort at a different time of year from the one suggested here. RCI will pay for flights for each winner and one companion to visit the resort in the first year.

Each of the four is designated a "Gold Crown" resort by RCI, an award it gives to just 13 per cent of its many locations, signifyings excellence and the most stringent standards. Therefore the winners can expect outstanding holidays. See right for details of each prize resort's attractions. For a chance to win this prize, all you have to do is collect five of the seven tokens we are publishing. Token 1 is printed below; further tokens will appear from Monday.

Winners will have the chance to take their families to resorts in exotic or rural locations worldwide

CHOICES THROUGH RCI RESORTS

Winter sports, far away places, exploring Britain's countryside or simply lying on the beach in the sun are all made simple when you stay at an RCI-affiliated resort. It has 1.9 million member-families worldwide, 180,000 of them in the UK.

The organisation was formed in Indianapolis, Indiana more than 20 years ago, originally as a system to swap US holiday apartments among friends. It published its first directory of resorts in 1975, grew to 100,000 members in 1983 and now has 62 offices in 29 countries.

RCI, with its European headquarters at Kettering, Northants, also offers timeshare owners a full travel service, including flights, car hire and travel insurance. As well as its directory of resorts, it publishes a quarterly magazine. Its team can arrange short breaks, tickets for a West End show or a trip down the Nile.

Using its bargaining power, RCI is able to obtain competitive prices for members from leading airlines, cruise lines and car-hire companies. For further information about the services call: 01536 314570.

Among the choices available to our winners are idyllic locations in the tropical sun

HOW TO ENTER

For your chance to win the holiday accommodation simply collect five out of the seven tokens we are publishing in The Times today and each day until Saturday June 17. Complete the application form below, attach the tokens and send to:

The Times/ RCI Holiday Competition, PO Box 6883, London E2 8ST, to arrive no later than Monday, July 3 1995.

The winners will be the first four entries picked at random from the postal bag, after the closing date. The winners will be notified by post.

Employees of News International Newspapers Ltd or of any company connected with the competition are not eligible to take part.

Only original tokens will be considered valid. Photocopies are not acceptable.

There is no limit to the number of entries from any individual.

Entrants must be aged 18 and over.

Previously published tokens may be obtained free of charge by post. Only four tokens can be supplied per application. Applicants must send a sae to The Times/ RCI Holiday Competition, PO Box 490, London E1 9DW.

Timeshare holiday bookings by the winners are subject to RCI's usual terms and conditions..

THE TIMES/RCI APPLICATION FORM

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Please tick box if you do not wish to receive future offers from *The Times* or companies approved by them. ☐

RCI.

Cameron House Estate, Scotland

The Scottish centre, Cameron House Hotel and country estate, covers 108 acres on the banks of Loch Lomond amid spectacular scenery. The winner here will spend their annual week in one of the 45 lodges in the wooded grounds.

The many outdoor pursuits include fishing, clay pigeon shooting and pony trekking. There is a private marina and nine-hole golf course. The hotel has an indoor leisure centre with two pools, squash courts, gymnasium, Jacuzzi and steam room.

Three restaurants provide an informal menu for families in the marina, a brasserie-style restaurant, and the Georgian Room where the executive chef, Jeff Bland, has a Michelin Star.

The prizewinner will stay in a one-bedroom sandstone and timber lodge available in mid-October. It has a luxury kitchen and Bang & Olufsen stereo system. The winner will own their week at the lodge in perpetuity, so it can be handed on to children.

Owners pay a yearly maintenance fee (currently £205) for upkeep. An annual dwelling tax of £47 is payable. Cameron House will pay both for the winner for the first year. More information, and details of viewing breaks, available on 01389 755625.

Silver Lake Resort, Florida

Silver Lake Resort, which opened in 1992, is on a tropical, landscaped 100-acre site at Orlando, Florida, bordering Walt Disney World.

Leisure facilities include an outdoor heated swimming pool with a large sun deck, children's pool and whirlpool spa. There are tennis courts, a half basketball court and discounted green fees at the Oaks golf course which is a few minutes' drive away.

An eight-storey recreational, fitness and business centre is planned to open in March 1996. A bonus is that Silver Lake guests can buy discounted tickets for most attractions in the Orlando area, so avoiding long ticket queues.

For occupancy in October, the spacious two-bedroom villa donated for the winner by Silver Lake Resort is one of 90 villas on the site. It has a king-size bed in the master suite.

The villa is very well equipped. Its kitchen has all the appliances you could need. There is also a large Jacuzzi and three remote-control television sets.

The yearly maintenance fee, currently $385 (£242), will be waived by the resort for the first year.

Information about Silver Lake is available on 001 407 397 2828.

Miraflores Rancho Club, Spain

The Costa del Sol in Spain is the location of our first resort, Miraflores Rancho Club, midway between Fuengirola and Marbella. It is an excellent base from which to visit the delights of Andalusia such as Granada, Cordoba, Seville and the ski slopes of the Sierra Nevada.

Miraflores has 18 swimming pools, for lazy, relaxing days. The near-perfect year-round climate encourages a huge variety of plants and trees, creating a profusion of colour.

Golf is a big attraction here. There is an 18-hole championship course, one of dozens of first-class courses along the coast. Miraflores has opened a golf academy with a 28-bay driving range, multi-lingual teaching professionals and video analysis room.

In the evening you can eat at one of the restaurants, or there is plenty of nightlife in Marbella and Porto Banus.

The winner's accommodation for a week each year is an air-conditioned one-bedroom apartment. The ownership week falls at the end of October and there is an annual maintenance fee for the upkeep of furnishings and amenities (£168 in 1995), waived for the first year.

For details of the resort call 0034 52 836375.

Four Seasons Vilamoura, Portugal

Golfers are well catered for at Four Seasons Vilamoura, a prestige private club on the Algarve just 20 minutes' drive from Faro airport. It is bordered by the ninth and tenth fairways of the championship Golf Dois course.

Four Seasons owners enjoy discounted fees with guaranteed starting times on three 18-hole courses, among the 14 on the Algarve.

Entertainment and leisure facilities at the club are excellent. There are two outdoor adult swimming pools and a children's pool set in landscaped gardens. Indoors there is a heated pool with sauna and whirlpool bath, bar, squash court, gymnasium, and snooker tables. In addition, there is a massage clinic, beauty parlour with hairdressing salon and children's games room.

The winner at Four Seasons Vilamoura will have a two-bedroom penthouse appointed to very high standards with a Jacuzzi and television with satellite channels. The week's availability is in October each year and the penthouse can be passed on in the family. Maintenance fees, currently £268 a year, will be waived for the first year.

For more information about Four Seasons Vilamoura, or to visit, call 00351 89 302799/302800.

هكذا من الأصل

Making a hash of rearing chicks

FARMER'S DIARY: PAUL HEINEY

I am trying very, very hard to be good, but it is proving to be a bit of a strain. I set out with a simple intention: to produce chickens for the table as sympathetically as possible, fed as naturally as any chicken could wish, and generally given an admittedly brief but glorious life before eventually meeting the Paxo packet.

All this started from a conviction that, with the possible exception of pork, chicken is the food which modern farming and food-processing techniques have done most to devalue. The meat is bland, rubbery, watery and hardly worth buying, unless price is a big consideration. There is no treat any more in eating chicken; and life is not much fun for the chickens either.

So I have set out to produce an *organic* chicken at an affordable price. I chose organic because of all the methods of raising meat, none is more tightly controlled or sympathetic to the animals. The organic standard, which now applies across Europe, sets down the way in which the chickens must be housed and fed, and bans such things as beak clipping, which is widely used to prevent bored and over-crowded birds from eating each other in order the pass the time on a wet afternoon.

My system, which complies with all the organic requirements, is to keep the chicks warm and fed in an old pigsty until they have sufficient feathers to face the harsh, outside world. Then they will go out to pasture and peck around. For shelter, and fox-proofing, I have converted a pig arc. The only problem I can envisage is that, as they will have spent their childhood in a pigsty and their adult life in a pig arc, there may be some confusion in their minds as to whether they should cluck or oink. That apart, so far so good.

For my experiment to have any validity, I must approach it on a commercial basis. It would be satisfying to take a slow-growing and traditional breed, such as a Light Sussex, but six months' growing time is longer than any farmer could afford to wait. I decided to buy hybrid chicks and rang a large breeding station, saying I wanted 50. The girl assumed I meant 50,000. She patiently explained that if it really was as few as 50 I needed, I would have to wait until there were some left after the day's orders had been dispatched; what might be thought of as the sweepings-up.

I found a smaller breeder where my order was looked on with less derision. "You'll let them out on the grass, won't you?" the lady asked. I promised her I would. "That's the proper way, dear."

I brought them home in a cardboard box, squeaking and as picturesque as an Easter greetings card, and gently put the little yellow chicks under the warmth of a lamp. Having been very, very good so far, I now started to be very, very bad.

The problem is feeding. Animal nutrition is a complex science and, if growth objectives are to be met, it takes more than the throwing of an *ad hoc* handful of corn to the chicks every now and again. I decided to buy their feed ready-mixed and formulated. I stipulated organic and the bags arrived bearing the Soil Association's symbol of approval.

On taking the first scoop out of the bag, the unmistakeable stink of fish hit me in the face. It was as if I had been smacked on the cheek by a wet haddock. To be fair, I had been warned that fish meal is a valuable source of protein and as such is essential for sustained growth. The feed merchant and I agreed that as the birds approached maturity, the fish meal would no longer be served lest we ended up producing something more akin to fish fingers than chicken nuggets.

But I am not happy about it. Hardly a week goes by without yet more evidence of ecological disaster looming around our coasts. Ministers from North Sea countries have been meeting in Denmark this week, fretting about these very issues. We hear that overfishing and industrialisation of fishing techniques is turning the oceans of the world into damp deserts. If you want to envisage the modern fishing business, forget Captain Birdseye, think Captain of Industry. Nor do I want anyone risking their life on the high seas, catching fish to put down the throats of my chickens.

What's the point anyway? All you are doing is turning one form of protein into another. Why not eat the fish in the first place?

The trouble is, if I do not have the fish meal in the chicks' rations they will grow so slowly that I shall end up with table birds more expensive than lobster. Then the world would demand more lobster instead and they, in turn, would be consigned to a hellish intensive farming system.

Of course, it is impossible to be entirely sound from an ecological point of view. If I were, my conscience would not let me eventually wrap the dressed chickens in plastic bags, or even paper ones. So, for the moment I am carrying on with the fishy feed, staggering round the farm smelling like a wet afternoon on the Grimsby fish dock, trying hard to be good and finding it difficult.

Tiddlers net big polluters

JACK CROSSLEY

Jane Brett (top left) of the ACA: her association monitors polluted waters and alerts the river authorities, pictured above examining poisoned fish

How a small anglers' group fights to keep our rivers clean

Jane Brett can expect a hero's welcome when she joins anglers celebrating the opening of the coarse fishing season next weekend "carrying my begging bowl". She has just taken over a pollution-fighting organisation which, although short of funds, wins hundreds of thousands of pounds in compensation for anglers.

Typically, Ms Brett, 39, could spend her week going over a pollution case for which the final claim is likely to be well over £500,000, and then become a weekend missionary to the nation's 3,000,000 anglers — seeking support for what has been described as "the most successful war waged against pollution by any voluntary body in the world".

Many people have never heard of the Anglers' Conservation Association (ACA), but polluters have. Big industrial companies have had to bow to this small corps of campaigners, which has a full-time staff of only five. They have been forced to clean up their acts, pay huge amounts in compensation and spend millions on improvements. Privatised water companies, slow to spend overflowing profits on overflowing sewage, have been hauled into court to have their coffers crowbarred open in the cause of cleaner water.

The anglers' cause was taken up in the late 1940s by John Eastwood, KC, a Bow Street magistrate, who founded the ACA. He sent out 3,000 letters, written in longhand, explaining how common law could be used to crush the polluters. Since then, the ACA has fought about 5,000 cases (see panel, right). It has lost only two, and is still battling to get one of those decisions overturned.

It is normal for the association to have up to 40 cases in the legal pipeline. On the present list there are actions against South West Water, Southern Water, Appletise, British Coal, British Petroleum, Dwyfor council in North Wales, Bulmers Cider, Durham County Council, and North West Water.

Five farmers face action over cow slurry and landslip pollutions, and two fish farmers face the wrath of ACA anglers who claim that they allowed rainbow trout to escape and "pollute" the sacred waters of the British native wild brown trout.

Persistence and the rigorous collection of scientific evidence are the ACA's main tools of success. Aerial surveys are carried out. Volunteers will sit all night in dinghies over submerged discharge pipes looking for signs of pollution. However, unless you get on the wrong side of the ACA, it remains eccentrically English: a sort of sabre-toothed pussy cat, keeping its claws sheathed unless cornered. Its officials like to quote this "fairy story":

Once upon a time the ACA and the National Rivers Authority had a boat race. The ACA won. A NRA investigation discovered the ACA had had eight people rowing and one steering. The NRA, who had one person rowing and eight steering, hired consultants to produce a consultative document.

"Millions of pounds later a new team structure evolved: four steering managers, three senior steering managers and one executive steering manager would operate a performance and appraisal system to give the person rowing more incentive to work harder, make him a key performer, give him empowerment and enrichment. The ACA won the next race by two miles. The NRA sacked the rower, sold the oars, cancelled capital investment for new equipment, halted the development of a new boat, gave high performance awards to the consultants and distributed the money saved as a bonus to senior management."

Typically, the ACA adds a footnote to its story: "Actually, we think highly of the NRA (most of the time)."

Ms Brett, however, is in no mood to sheath the ACA's claws. She joined the association eight years ago as an assistant to Allen Edwards, its renowned campaigning director, and has beaten off strong competition to succeed him.

The association operates from a cramped office in a converted Zionist chapel in Grantham, Lincolnshire, close to where Margaret Thatcher was born. Ms Brett says: "All the money we win in compensation goes back to the anglers. The ACA gets nothing, unless anglers volunteer it.

"We survive because we win. One or two lost cases could easily see us go under.

"At the moment, I see sewage works as the most urgent problem. Wherever we look, we find under-invested Victorian sewage works putting the environment at risk. If we can get those sorted out, a great chunk of our work would disappear. I want to get on top of this one, but I see a long haul ahead. All too often nobody does anything until they are *pushed*. It may be that there are inherited problems with these waterworks, but there is reluctance to spend money to put them right."

Is she not nervous about going into battle against the giants? "Not at all. There may have been a time when the big boys thought they could treat us with contempt, but not any more," she says. "Our record is good enough to persuade most of them to settle out of court. They're the ones who ought to be nervous. The ACA is a tough cookie. So am I."

JACK CROSSLEY

● *Anglers' Conservation Association, 6 Castlegate, Grantham, Lincs NG31 6SW (01476 61008).*

Fishing tackle, page 13

Casebook conquests of the anglers' friend

☐ Robert Hesketh, of Southport, Merseyside, a member of the Anglers' Conservation Association (ACA), complained that untreated sewage had ruined a wildlife habitat he had created. Despite objections dating back to 1987, North West Water had largely neglected the problem of its antiquated storm sewer overflows. Offensive matter killed birds and fish.

North West Water faced a six-day trial but settled out of court on the first day, paying £40,000 damages and £50,000 costs, and undertaking to carry out large-scale improvements.

☐ The ACA's first contested High Court case, in 1949, was against the Great Torrington Corporation, North Devon, over sewage in the river Torridge. If it had not won damages and costs, the association could well have folded. It had only £200 in its fighting fund at the time.

☐ A history of the ACA tells of its battle against the stationery manufacturers John Dickinson, accused of polluting the river Gade in Hertfordshire. "Since 1930," it says, "charges against the polluters under statutory law had continually failed. When the ACA brought its civil action, three weeks were set aside for the hearing. For the defendants, the cost of such lengthy proceedings was relatively insignificant; for the ACA it was a matter of committing its entire resources — defeat would assuredly have entailed bankruptcy."

The ACA won on the first day and were awarded damages and costs.

☐ In one case, the ACA took on four large corporations after local waters had become "a hellsbrew, making the river hotter than the Red Sea". With 17 days in the High Court and a further six in the Court of Appeal, it is the longest trial fought by the ACA.

Injunctions and damages were awarded against all four defendants.

☐ In 1987, the ACA negotiated £352,685 in compensation for anglers after an escape of flux oil destroyed fish along the length of the River Tees. A case in preparation follows a big fish kill on the river Eden, Cumbria, and the claim is likely to exceed £500,000.

STILL PICTURES

An outflow polluted with chemicals on Humberside

High living on the wing

Feather Report

FEW creatures want sunny skies in mid-June more than the swifts. Their young are just breaking out of the eggshells, and each nestling is going to need thousands of insects in the next few weeks. Clear skies mean food in abundance: wet skies will mean labour and hardship.

Swifts do almost everything on the wing, sometimes even copulating and sleeping. They build in holes under roofs and in towers, but the scraps of grass and feathers from which their nests are made are picked up in the air, then bound together with saliva.

The bird's-nest *soup* so prized in the East is made from the saliva nests of some related species, the cave swiftlets. It is said that if the swiftlets start nesting in a house in Java, the owners abandon it to encourage the birds, and can soon buy a new house out of the profits. But I have not met anyone who has tasted British swifts' nests.

Now that the swifts are feeding their young — usually two or three to a brood — they are using their saliva again.

Swifts can sleep in flight

They collect flying insects in a throat pouch and stick them together with saliva to form a ball. Back at the nest, they cough up bits of the ball for each of the nestlings.

Swifts are one of the finest sights of summer as they dash round the roofs, screaming on their long black wings, then swooping up into their nest holes. Even the young scream feebly inside the hole — and have been reported screaming while still in the eggshell.

There is a brilliant book about swifts written by the late Dr David Lack, *Swifts in a Tower*, published by Methuen in 1956. Lack and his colleagues studied the swifts nesting in the mock-medieval tower of the Oxford Science Museum by replacing the covers of ventilator shafts with glass-backed nesting-boxes. As a schoolboy, I several times climbed the trembling 30ft ladder to the lofty viewing platforms.

But the swifts do not stay long in Britain. As soon as the young can fly — in about mid-July — they are off to South Africa. Their weary parents need two or three weeks to rest and feed, then they follow them. And until the next May, the skies are silent again.

DERWENT MAY

● **What's about:** *Birders — Watch for gangs of noisy young starlings. Twitchers — Olivaceous warbler at Fair Isle, Scotland; Wilson's phalarope at Porlock Marsh, Somerset; Woodchat shrike at Portland Bill, Dorset. Details from Birdline 0891 700222. Calls cost 40p a minute cheap rate, 50p at all other times.*

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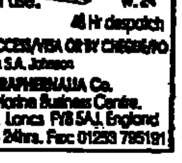

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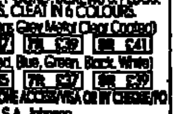

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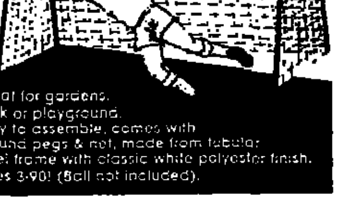

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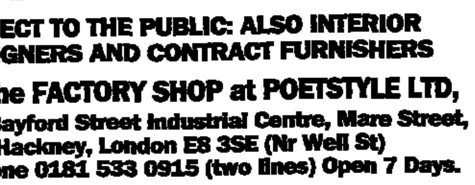

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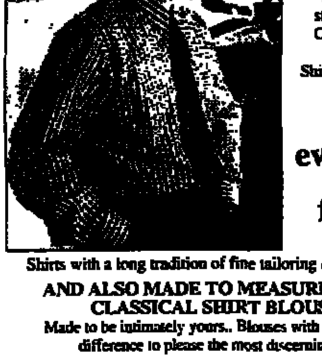

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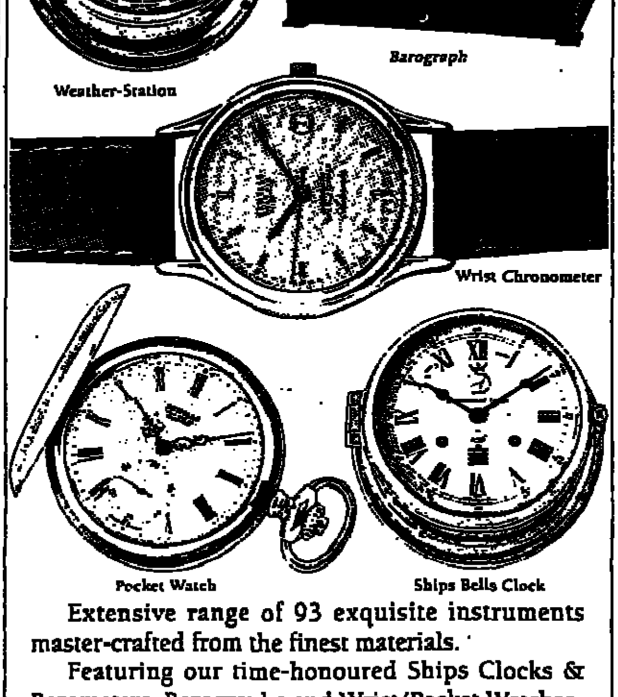

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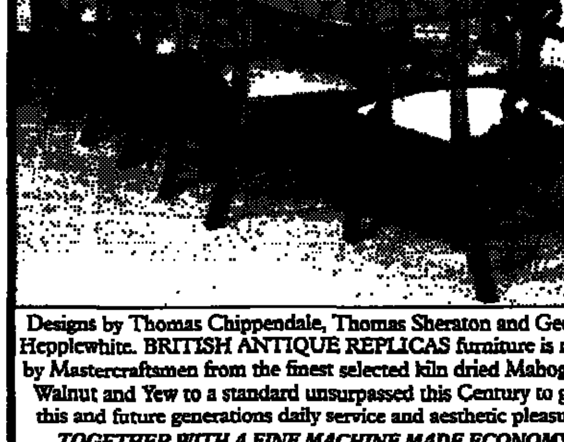

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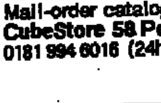

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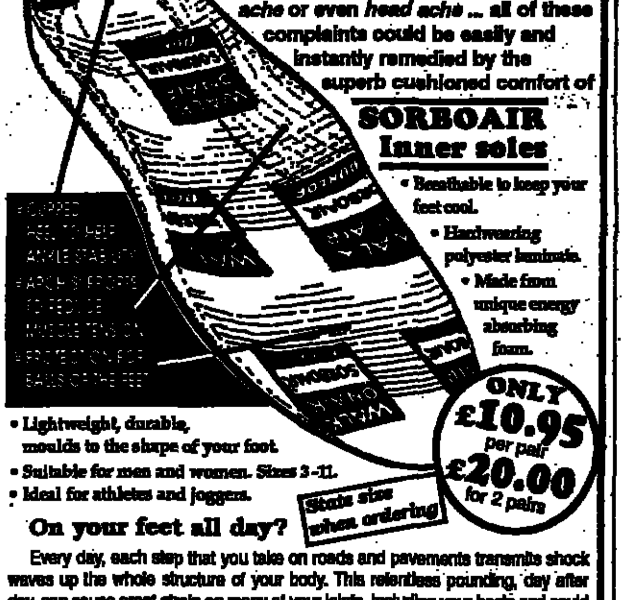

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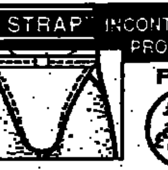

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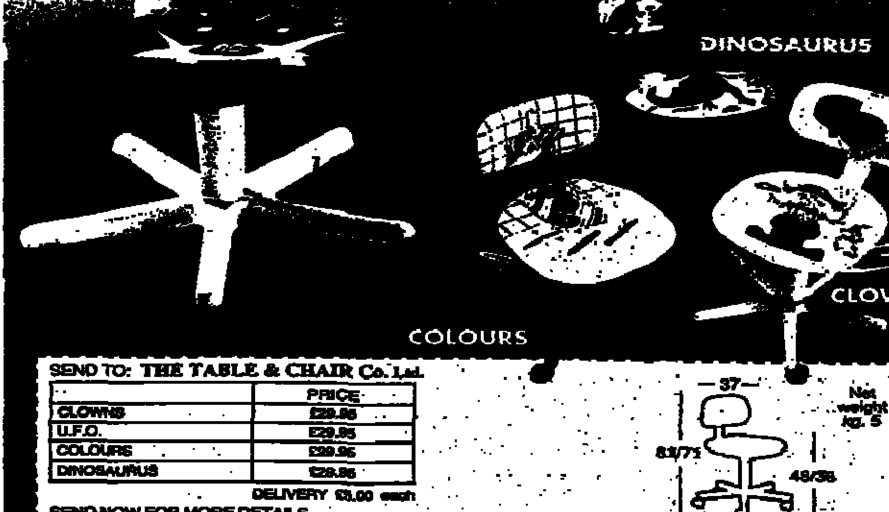

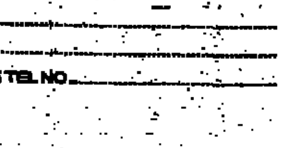

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هكذا من الأصل

With the coarse fishing season opening next week, **Jack Crossley** offers a guide to the equipment needed to hook that big catch

Seasonal sales from the river bank

The feel-good factor is on its way to a retail *shop* near you next week. It's the end of the closed season for those obsessive folk who hunt coarse fish in the fresh waters of our lakes and rivers. And it's open season, too, for those shopkeepers ready to meet the insatiable demand for new tackle which anglers develop at this time of year.

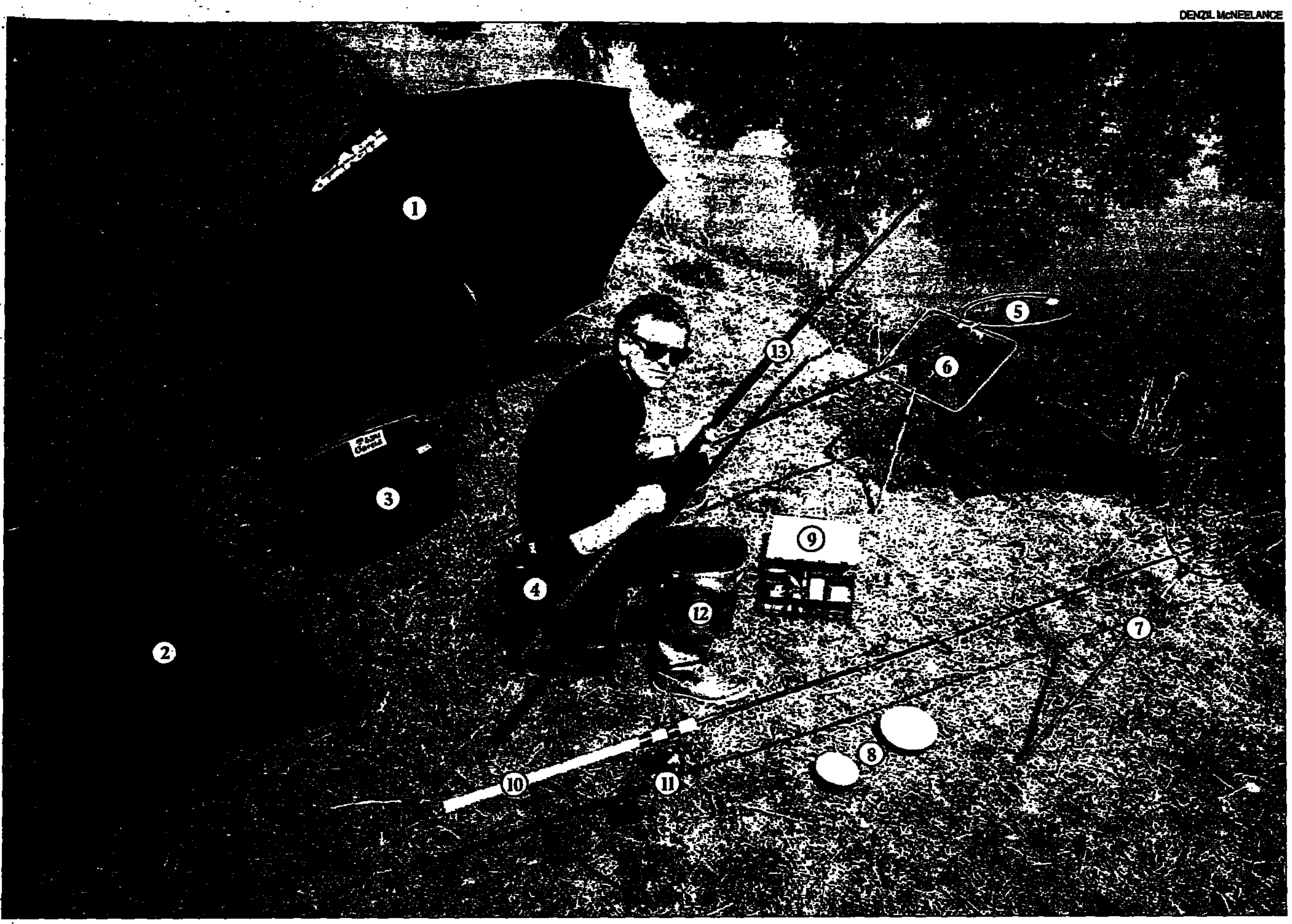
For the uninitiated, a tackle shop is a glittering maze of new fishing gear. If you want to fish like three-times world champion Bob Nudd, then be prepared to spend well over £10,000. That is the cost of his hand-made 17-metre rod (called a pole). Or if you want to fish like Stuart Ravenscroft, a six-year-old who catches pike nearly as big as himself, then you need not spend more than £10. He uses a starter kit which includes a rod, reel, line, float, weights and hooks. But if you want to keep the costs down and still feel that you are in with a chance with the top-notch anglers, you can get in among the fish for between £60 and £100.

Schoolboy Stuart is the son of Stuart Ravenscroft senior, a top tackle agent who specialises in state-of-the-art tackle made by Swedish-based Abu Garcia. It helps that Stuart senior is also a riparian owner of a stretch of the river Mole at Esher in Surrey, which is teeming with pike, carp, chub, bream, roach, dace, perch and barbel.

Mr Ravenscroft is pictured right with a selection of 1995 equipment in the garden of his home overlooking the Mole. "This is a fair example of what dedicated enthusiasts would like to have with them when the season opens," he says. "To buy everything shown here would cost around £800.

"But most anglers start off with much less than this. As a minimum, I would recommend a rod, costing between £30 and £50, and a reel, costing between £15 and £30. Allow another £20 for the line, floats, weights, hooks and so on, and don't forget you need a licence — available from Post Offices — at £15 for a year, £4.50 for eight days or £1.50 for a day. A child who is short of cash and desperate to get started could do worse than buy a reasonable outfit for about £10."

A word of warning, though. There are some poor products on the market that could break a child's heart when they fail to perform. The best advice is to visit a local tackle dealer, explain how much you want to spend, and stick to the branded goods with a good track record, such as Shakespeare, Abu, Daiwa and Shimano.

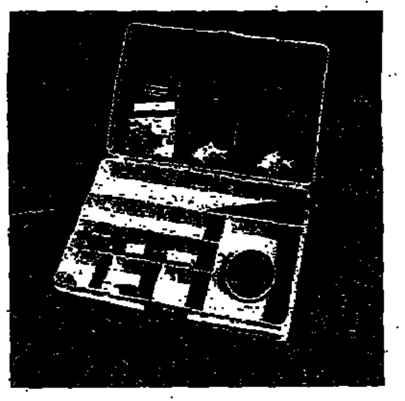


DENZIL McNEELANCE

Left: Stuart Ravenscroft senior with a *selection* of 1995 equipment.

1. Umbrella, 110cm, dual tilt, £37.99
2. Ambassador two-pocket holdall, £49.99
3. Ambassador carryall, £34.99
4. Seat box, £149.99
5. Lightweight alloy pan net, 50cm, £14.99, with two-piece telescopic handle, £12.99
6. Rectangular mono keep net, 250cm, with sack bottom, £43.99
7. Alloy bank stick, telescopes from 60cm to 100cm, £5.99
8. Half-pint bait box, 75p; one-and-a-half pint bait box, 80p
9. Tackle box selection, £40.80
10. Gold Max match rod, 12ft, £99.99
11. Closed-face match reel, £79.99
12. Streamfisher waders, £52.99
13. Shakespeare pole, 10.8m, £325

● *The equipment shown was supplied by Stuart Ravenscroft (01372 464647) and Gerry's of Wimbledon (0181-542 7792)*



Far left: Beginners' kit tackle box selection, £16.25

Centre: *Stuart Ravenscroft* junior tries his hand with a telescopic fishing set, £34.99

Left: Beginners' kit, including a Cobra match rod, £28.99, Delta fixed spool reel and two spools, £14.99, Gerry's seat box, £24.99, and half-pint bait box, 75p

Although the beginning of a new season is a bonanza for tackle shops, they have felt the bite of recession over the past two or three years. Mr Ravenscroft says: "What seems to have happened during the recession is a demand for competitively priced gear that is also value for money, yet which must still perform to high standards. Manufacturers have met this demand with rods costing under £60 and reels under £30. Keen customers, such as dedicated carp and pike specialists, and match fishermen, will pay £200 to £300 for a rod and up to £150 for a reel. Some match fishermen will pay up to £2,000 for a pole. At the same time you can buy a shorter pole — called a whip — for only £10," he says.

"Even at the cheaper end of the market you can still buy equipment that performs well. You are not doing youngsters a disservice by starting them off on a low budget. Maybe then they will become high-profile match anglers, prepared to spend hundreds of pounds in the future for ultra-fine tackle that provides the lightness, flexibility, length, speed and control in difficult conditions needed for precise presentation of the bait. They will want the very latest in sophisticated equipment for catching fish in competitions," Mr Ravenscroft says.

"The products are always changing. New technology has brought us equipment which is lighter, stronger and faster. New fishing techniques are always coming along and tackle must match up to these changing demands."

Even though tackle is becoming more innovative, Mr Ravenscroft disagrees with the old saying that angling gear is designed to catch anglers rather than fish.

"Tackle dealers are not trying to rip you off," he says. "Get to know them. They are usually keen anglers themselves, know the local waters and are ready to offer valuable free advice.

"They want you back in the shop every weekend, replacing worn and lost tackle. For there is another old saying in the tackle trade: 'If you ain't losing, you ain't using.' "

For the best picnic under the sun

What better way to enjoy the warm summer days (when they finally arrive), than eating al fresco

I am of the generation that suffered the real English picnic: swooping gulls at Dungeness; drinking milk tasting of Bakelite sitting in the back of a Hillman Minx somewhere off the A1; pork pies and hard-boiled eggs eaten under the shelter of an inadequate umbrella.

As a student, I went through the hampers-and-Laura-Ashley bucolic rituals, carting a straw hat and Little Grey Rabbit basket around the hills. But picnicking, to misappropriate Samuel Johnson's comment on a re-marriage, is the triumph of hope over experience. Every year I try again, and this summer I have once more been searching out picnic paraphernalia.

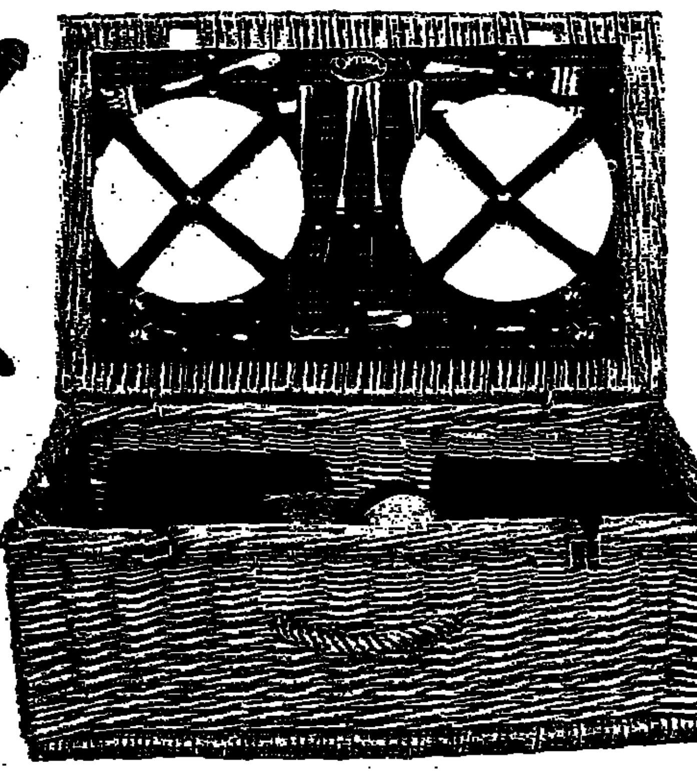
If you have casual picnics in mind, especially with small children, choose melamine or acrylic plates and glasses to minimise breakages. John Lewis has acrylic plates (£1.95), side plates (£1.05), bowls (£1.05) and mugs (£1.15) in bright green, blue or pink. The picnic basics include a Decor two-bottle cooler (£31), a Thermos 38-litre cool box in navy with a white top (£35) and a green and navy wool picnic rug (6ft x 4ft 6in) with carrying handle and waterproof nylon reverse (£45).

For a large family picnic, consider a Coleman coolbox (£79), which is the size of a modest cabin trunk. Also buy Glostyle Super Ice coolers (99p for a pack of two) to freeze and then pack around your picnic to keep it cool. John Lewis's Optima Tartan Ascot fitted hamper for four (3kg, £145) includes white melamine plates, cutlery, tumblers, two food boxes, a flask, cork screw, and salt and pepper pots.

Hampers in which you can pack your own crockery are also available from Optima (four person, £79). You could pack them with paper plates (eight x 10in, £1.95, Harrods) and wicker paper plate-holders (75p, Jerry's Home Store). Or try plastic plates in clear green or blue (£1.99, House of Fraser) and plastic glasses in dark green decorated with gold stars (highballs £3.45, tumblers £2.95, John Lewis), with plastic wine glasses with dark green stems (£2.25, House of Fraser).

For bright colours or country greens, try opaque acrylic picnicware from Heals in blue, clear, pink, orange, yellow and green (tumblers £1.95, lidded jug £5.95, large bowl £5.95, individual bowls £4.95). While you're there, pick up a checked cotton hammock (£27.50) to make the most of those cool glades. If you don't want to sit on damp grass, there is a huge range of portable seats to be found, from Habitat's camp chair (£15, plus sling £5) to Debenhams' simple canvas camping stool (£9.99). Harrods has a rustic tripod stool with leather seat and traditional carrying handle (£35).

Rustic tripod stool, £35 from Harrods



Optima Tartan Ascot Hamper for four, £145 from John Lewis

Alongside dazzling parrot-decorated melamine plates and Jacques Cousteau fun glasses you can find wicker-covered glasses and bottles to conjure up the atmosphere of a nostalgic prewar picnic. Good value in this line are Habitat's basket-encased bottles (£5) and matching tumblers (£1.95). Add white melamine plates (£3.95) and Harrods's matching pair of wicker-covered bottles in their own basket (£85) and, for fun, its Party Shaker set (for six, £12.95), containing everything you need to brighten up your cocktails (parasols, coolers, coasters, stirrers and recipes).

Alternatively, go for glamour with the De Luxe Picnic Case for Two from Smythson of Bond Street (5.85kg, £950), with vacuum flasks, bone china crockery, stainless steel cutlery, a milk flask and sandwich containers. The drop-front case is lined inside and out with pigskin (in green, tan, brown or blue), and has a buckled top and carrying strap. Then there is the Cheltenham basket for six from Fortnum and Mason's Harlequin range (16kg, £495), fitted with Limoges bone china crockery, a Flectacon bottle carrier with corkscrew, two lunchboxes, wool rug, wicker double bottle basket and wicker glass basket with cut crystal glasses.

Flectacon is a thermal insulation material which is guaranteed to keep food cool or hot for up to five hours, and the range includes everything from thermoplastic plates (£4) and lunchboxes (£5) to the standard picnic bag (£22.50) and the Rug Bag (£59), a 25-litre insulating bag that turns into a waterproof rug.

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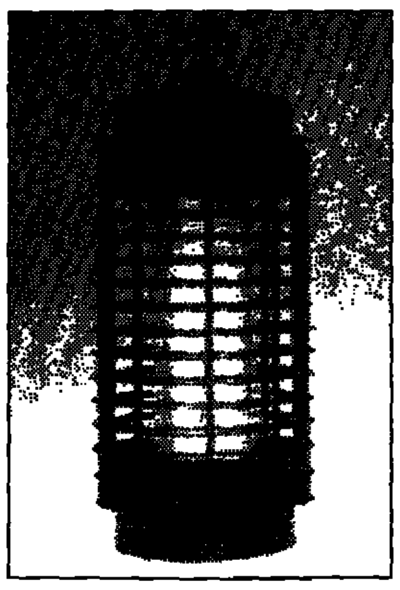
Debenhams (0171-408 4444 for branches); Fortnum and Mason, 181 Piccadilly, W1 (0171-734 8040); Habitat (0171-255 5000 for branches); Harrods, Knightsbridge, SW1 (0171-730 1234); Heals, 196 Tottenham Court Road, W1 (0171-636 1666); House of Fraser (0171-834 1515 for branches); Jerry's Home Store, 163 Fulham Road, SW3 (0171-581 0909); John Lewis, Oxford Street, W1 (0171-629 7711); Smythson, 44 New Bond Street, W1 (0171-629 8558).



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When Granny is out of her tree

■ FOLLOWING YOUR HEART
By Susanna Tamaro, translated by Avril Bardoni
Secker, £9.99

I SUSPECT that the only reason this novel has sold more than one million copies is that it is not really a novel at all, but a feel-good thinly disguised as fiction.

It takes the form of a letter from an ailing 80-year-old Italian woman to her granddaughter in America, in which she seeks to excuse a pretty inexcusable past. The granddaughter, it soon emerges, h· fled from Trieste and her letter-writing granny in a state of exasperation, as her mother did before her. For granny is a dippy sojourner with nature, forever flinging her arms around the nearest tree because, tellingly, "none of the things which enable it to live depends upon its own will. It exists; that is all."

She is avidly keen on pronouncing meaningless shreds of mysticism. "On the grass be the grass, under the oak be the oak, among people be a person" is a particular favourite, although "silence is like a wet cloth: it does away for ever with the film of dust" is perhaps more breathtakingly banal.

The letters, which she intends to be read after her death, are attempts at self-justification: their message: forgive me, for I have long forgiven myself. In explication, she sets out her life story — a series of uncharitable, deceitful and selfish acts. Her wrong-doing, she claims, was the fault of her parents, who sapped her self-esteem. She married a man she did not love, had an affair with one she did, and a daughter, Ilaria, by him. Later Ilaria — the mother of the letters' recipient — became an unhappy and mutinous drug addict and died in a car crash, yet to her mother she was "a parasitic climber".

Here is a woman who has lived through the Occupation yet can only write, "It must seem strange that I should omit any mention of all the tragic events taking place". Not really, since she claims: "To fight for an idea when you have no clear idea about yourself is one of the most dangerous things you can do." I would like to think that this ludicrous clap-trap was written ironically but I fear not. Its earnest prose seriously suggests that the path to happiness lies in ignoring Fascism and hugging trees, a more hateful philosophy, surely, than fighting for an idea.

PENNY PERRICK

Versed in poetic justice

It was a Jew who showed that, even after Auschwitz, German was a poet's language

Try the following experiment at any informal social gathering: a lunch or dinner party, a drink in the pub after work. Say that you have enjoyed or been moved by a poem, that you want to read it to them and ask their opinion. Watch the faces of your friends as they reach for the conversational equivalent of their revolvers: "What, right now?", "Must you?", "What's the matter with *you*, then?", "Sorry, we really must be going".

And they will not be back in a hurry. The British place people who read poetry aloud in company in the same category as drunks, politicians and proselytisers of all kinds. Poetry is pretentious, boring, priggish — or so we tell ourselves. And of course a given poem may well be any or all of those things. But it ain't necessarily so.

Last week I had a singular opportunity to try this experiment before a captive audience of several hundred people at the Hay-on-Wye Literary Festival. The sort of people whose idea of a good holiday is to brave the drizzle and mud to hear writers arguing in tents are by definition a minority, though I dare say many read *The Times*. Their passion for literature alarms even some people in the book trade. I found myself in the health-food shop overhearing a man with more than a passing resemblance to the Ancient Mariner, noisily denouncing the festival and all who attended it. On closer inspection, he turned out to be Richard Booth, the self-proclaimed "King of Hay", who owns the castle and various second-hand bookshops there. I could not help noticing that in all Hay's many bookshops, including his, the tills were ringing merrily.

My audience, however bookish, must have felt ambushed when I told them that I was going to read the most important poem written since 1945; and their hearts may have sunk even further when I said that it was in German and that they were going to hear it in the original first. Yet lots of them thanked me afterwards for reading it in both languages; one even said she had been moved to tears.

The poem was *Todesfuge* (*Deathfugue*) by the Jewish poet Paul Celan. It was written during the Second World War in his home town of Czernowitz, then in Romania, now the Ukraine. It was his first published poem, and the first under his pen-name "Celan". This was a reversal of the real one, Antschel; as Noel Malcolm pointed out to me, the usual pronunciation of Celan ("Saylahn") is wrong: it ought to be "Chelahn".

After the Nazi invasion of Russia, Celan had come home one morning to find his house boarded up and his parents deported to their deaths; he never saw them again. He spent two years in a Romanian labour camp, somehow returned alive and in 1947-48 made his way via Vienna to Paris, where he settled. Though his fame spread, and *Deathfugue* in particular became a text familiar to every German schoolchild, Celan suffered terribly from the legacy of the Nazi genocide.

DANIEL JOHNSON

His depressions were exacerbated by the irrational guilt that plagues so many of his fellow-survivors; worse, he was accused of plagiarism, and in postwar Europe he found anti-Semitism everywhere. In 1970 he drowned himself in the Seine; he was 49.

John Felstiner, an American critic, has now written the first full biography: *Paul Celan: Poet, Survivor, Jew* (Yale University Press, £19.95). Felstiner is clear, intelligent and quietly erudite. Nor does he neglect the poetry while narrating this harrowing life story: his translations are sensitive to the infinite nuances of Celan's formidably introspective verse. This will surely remain the definitive work on him.

All the same, I cannot help wishing that George Steiner, Celan's most vigorous champion in this country, had written a book about him. In a long review-essay in last week's *Times Literary Supplement*, Steiner offered an illuminating discussion of Celan's improbable relationship with Martin Heidegger, the philosopher who had once hailed the "inner truth" of National Socialism and denounced Jewish colleagues to the authorities.

Celan cannot have been an easy companion on their walks through the Black Forest. He did not even want to share a publisher with Heidegger's friend, the writer Ernst Jünger (who has recently celebrated his 100th birthday), because Jünger had fought in the Wehrmacht. Yet Jünger's 1939 novel *On the Marble Cliffs* was an anti-Nazi tract which was soon banned. I am not persuaded by Steiner's claim that, in *Deathfugue*, Celan alluded to this novel with his famous metaphor "Death is a master from Germany": isolated in the Bukovina, Celan could hardly have obtained a copy in the war years. The "German master" also occurs in a contemporary poem by Celan's schoolfriend, Immanuel Weissglas. At his last encounter with Heidegger in 1970, Celan recited his poetry, then scolded the philosopher for apparently catnapping. Heidegger's only comment was: "Celan is sick — incurable."

Steiner compares this attraction of polar opposites to the friendship, almost two centuries before, of the poet Hölderlin and the philosopher Hegel. Celan identified closely with Hölderlin, who went mad; and his suicide, so chillingly akin to that of Primo Levi in 1987, may have been prompted by a fear of the same fate. Steiner oddly suggests that he chose to die on April 20 because it was the anniversary of Hitler's suicide: in fact it was the Führer's birthday (he died on April 30). Felstiner suggests that it had something to do with Passover. We will never know.

Suicide seems a strange way to celebrate survival. But a leading German intellectual of the day, Theodor Adorno, notoriously declared in 1955: "After Auschwitz, to write a poem is barbaric." Celan proved him wrong. (It is not true, as Steiner says, that "having read Celan, Adorno withdrew his edict". He reiterated it.) Celan may have despaired of his readers and of himself, but he did not lose faith in his mission: to show that German was still a language fit for poets.

Rooms with a point of view

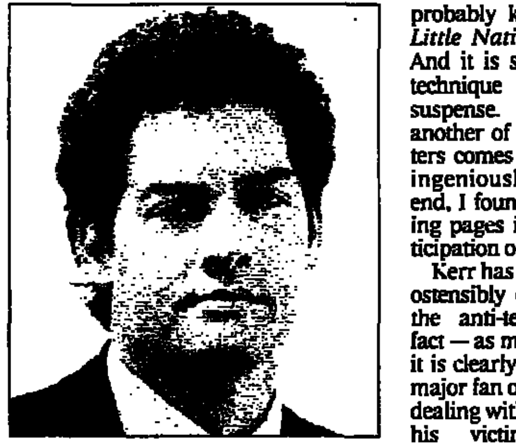
A 'smart' building with killing on its electronic mind keeps **Peter Millar** in a state of fevered suspense

■ GRIDIRON
By Philip Kerr
Chatto & Windus, £14.99

IT WAS Arthur C. Clarke's genially murderous HAL in *2001, A Space Odyssey*, who set the seal on our fascination with the cybernetic psychopath. Unfortunately Clarke himself recently debunked to me the best myth about HAL — that his name was derived by moving each letter back one step alphabetically from IBM: "If I'd seen the connection, I'd have given him another name."

In contrast, Philip Kerr has quite deliberately chosen Abraham as a symbolic name for the real star of his new book. Abraham is a supercomputer, although, given that he has a built-in "self-replicating programme", a list of Old Testament genealogy might be useful. Consider this computer as patriarch of a new chosen race.

"Gridiron" is the nickname given to Kerr's fictional implant in the Los Angeles skyline, a towering edifice of the sort that the Prince of Wales hates, built by an architect that nobody can stand. The difference is that this is the world's first "smart" building, in which every function — from the speed of the lifts to the automated hygiene arrangements in the paper-free lavatories — is supposed to be controlled by Abraham.



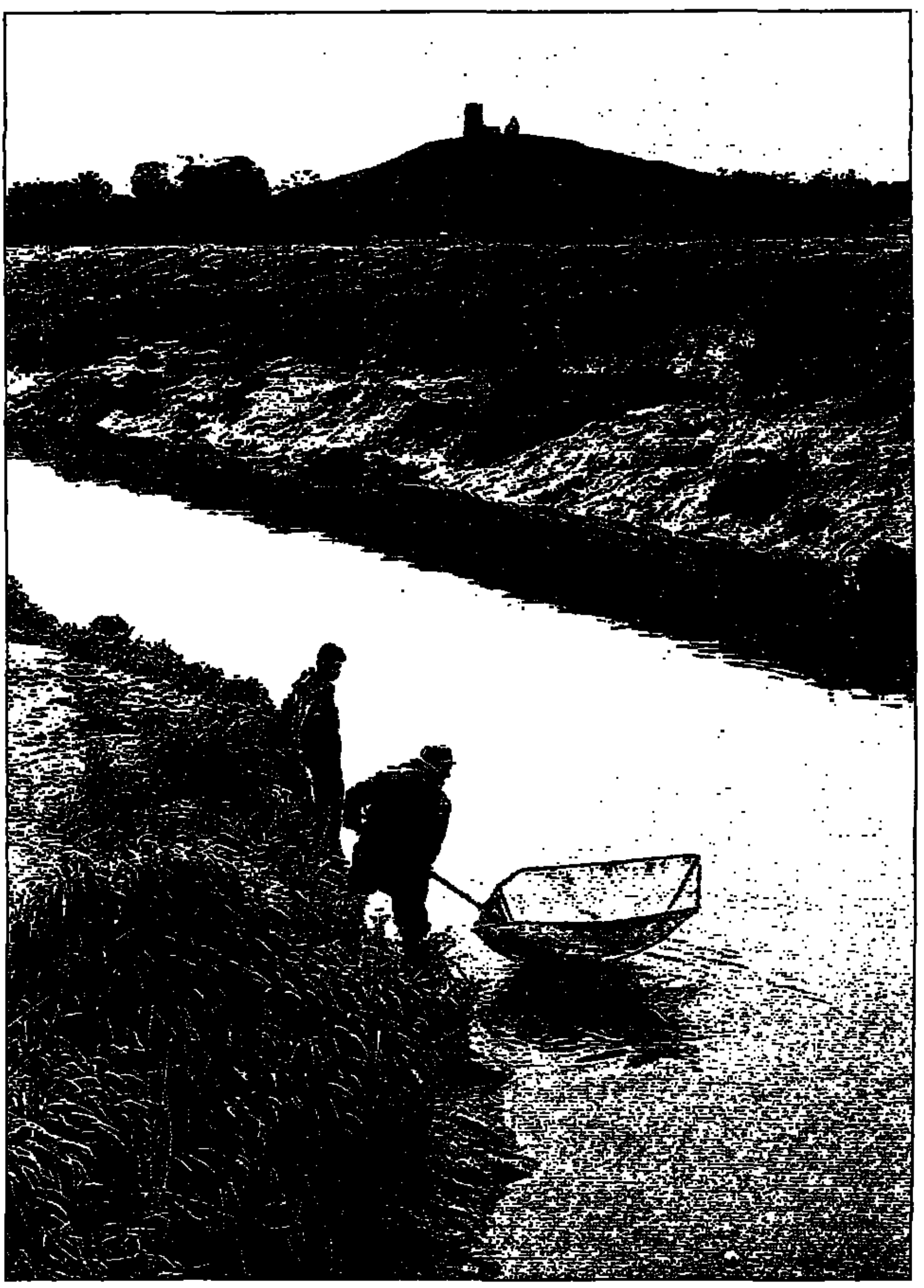
Kerr: tailor-made for Hollywood

Kerr includes little architectural quotations to point us in the right direction, including this, from Sir Richard Rogers: "The *buildings of the future* will be more like robots than temples."

This book is a cinegenic set piece, tailor-made for Hollywood's special-effects people. Take a dozen or so ill-assorted individuals and lock them up with a hidden killer which, it quickly becomes obvious, is the building itself. The "pick'em off, one by one" plot is as corny as it was when Agatha Christie published the classic which these days is probably known as *Ten Little Native Americans*. And it is still as good a technique for building suspense. As one after another of Kerr's characters comes to a new and ingeniously gruesome end, I found myself turning pages in feverish anticipation of the endgame.

Kerr has written a book ostensibly on the side of the anti-technocrats: in fact — as much as *2001* — it is clearly the work of a major fan of the future. In dealing with Abraham, as his victims discover, "game" is the crucial concept. After all, what are most computers used for most of the time? If you have never sat down at a keyboard to pit your wits against an electronic *opponent, then you will enjoy* this book as a self-justification.

On the other hand, if you are a dab hand at *Donkey Kong* or *Sim City*, you will just love it.



Elver fishermen on the River Parrett below Burrow Mump: from *Wetland — Life in the Somerset Levels* by Patrick Sutherland and Adam Nicolson (Mermaid, £14.99)

Where's the beef in Texas?

■ BORDER MUSIC
By Robert James Waller
Heinemann, £9.99

TWO novels on from the enormously successful *Bridges of Madison County*, Robert James Waller has yet to come up with anything more than a dogged old country-and-western-style repeat and fade. The formula was clearly defined even before its application *ad nauseam* hardened it into a cliché as flint-like as the look in the hero's eyes. Waller's archetypal hero is a restless guy — achin' bones, achin' spirit — and *Border Music*'s Jack Carmine is no exception. Girls cannot stick with his wild ways. His mom "makes the best cinnamon rolls in the world" and "he has an inbuilt taste for anarchy".

Jack ("God's only free-born soul") met Linda Lobo ("she was what used to be called high-assed") while she was making money twirling her tassles in some no-hope bar. Not that Jack does not like a good twirl — he is all for it — but he steps right in to defend the lady's honour the minute some guy volunteers for a spot of audience participation.

En route for Texas ("home of the last unbonded men on earth"), Jack and Linda stumble on a fortieth wedding anniversary celebration and are touched, nay, humbled, by *this rare spectacle of marital* devotion. "In a world getting more and more used to losing, Mr and Mrs Edward Thorald had won big." Maybe Jack and Linda could have won big too, had Jack not been tortured by ghosts of Vietnam and Linda not been seduced by the lure of adult education.

Twenty years ago, someone like Jack Carmine might well *have been a harmless enough* sort of chap. These days you just cannot be so sure. Old-fashioned American values are not what they used to be. Here they find expression in a novel which is pretentious, maudlin and deeply suspect. Whoever complained that men never show their emotions should have held her peace. Quick! Stuff that male sentiment back under your stetson.

HELEN STEVENSON

THE TIMES/NPI

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HAREWOOD HOUSE, Harewood, Leeds, is the venue for the Jaguar Enthusiasts' Club National Northern Rally from 10am to 4.30pm on Sunday, 9 July. The event is one of the country's largest gatherings of Jaguars and other "classic" cars, and the public are welcome to share in the event.

Harewood House, the Yorkshire home of the Earl and Countess of Harewood, was designed by John Carr and Robert Adam. It contains outstanding collections of paintings, porcelain and Chippendale furniture and two new Watercolour rooms. Barry's splendid Terrace Gardens, overlooking the 'Capability' Brown landscape, are fully restored to their elaborate Parterre patterns. The Bird Garden, woodland walks and Adventure Playgrounds make Harewood an ideal day out for all the family.

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PORTCHESTER CASTLE, Portchester, Hampshire, is the venue for 'Soldiers of the Queen' from noon to 5pm on Saturday, 8 July and Sunday, 9 July. This small, but fascinating, display of infantry, cavalry and artillery of Queen Victoria's army in 1890, includes uniforms, weaponry, equipment and tactics, plus encampment.

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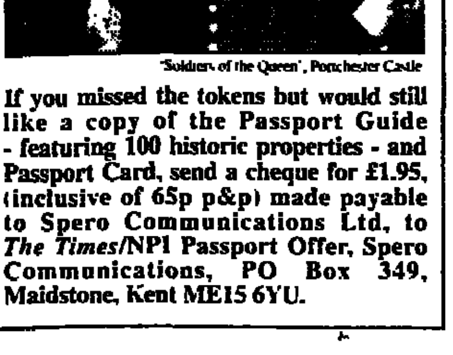

'Soldiers of the Queen', Portchester Castle

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A wallow in the swamp of New York's history in the summer of Gettysburg

The riot stuff

■ BANISHED CHILDREN OF EVE
By Peter Quinn
Penguin, £6.99.

"'THE draft will be conducted on the basis of a lottery,' Noonan explained. 'Those who provide substitutes will be permanently excused.'" These regulations, drawn up in 1863 during the American Civil War, set off the great Draft Riot that nearly gutted New York City. The riot is the spark of Peter Quinn's first novel, a fat, historical wallow in the sweltering summer of Gettysburg.

Quinn sets out to give us a panoramic view of New York when the war could have gone either way, and uncertainty hung thick as the stink of the sewers in the air. He gives us the hustling Irish with their close-knit, violent gangs; a jumped-up stockbroker who came from nothing and may return if the price of gold does not rise; a beautiful mulatto actress who has been so long in the role of *Uncle Tom's Cabin*'s Eliza that nobody uses her real name. Sometimes their stories intersect, and sometimes not: the reader weaves through story and history as if strolling down Broadway, wondering where she has seen that face before.

At more than 600 hundred pages, the novel sprawls rather than drives forward, and there is *never a real narrative* rope to hold the whole thing together. This is a pity, because certain sections clearly reveal Quinn's flair for story-telling.

But if Quinn's aim was to conjure up the spirit of New York in the 1860s, he has achieved it. "History, sir, is about to suck you in, true history, a place you must crawl through, a steaming, muddy swamp."

ERICA WAGNER

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FOLLOWING his reading of *Kidnapped*, Robbie Coltrane continues his sweep through the Scottish classics, though Rob Roy is a fleeting figure in this condensation. Coltrane comes into his own when the story switches from England and his Scottish accents are allowed full rein given. Scott's heroine, Diana Vernon, is liberated centuries before her time, hotly pursuing our hero, Francis Osbaldstone. The villain, Rashleigh Osbaldstone, sounds like a silly ass, but then he is English.

■ NERVE
By Dick Francis
Read by Tony Britton
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AN early Francis thriller, 30 years old in fact, but still as fresh as a morning gallop. The hero is a young, rising jockey who appears to have lost his nerve after a fall, but a series of bizarre coincidences convinces him that someone is cunningly plotting his downfall. As usual there is a satchel full of insider detail. The story crackles from the start although Tony Britton's worldly voice is a touch too mature for the young hero.

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SHARON RABBITTE gets blind drunk and pregnant at the soccer club Christmas party. Her father Jimmy Sr welcomes the impending birth, taking more interest than he ever did in his own brood, much to the amusement of his wife Veronica. A warm, winsome tale of "new" family life.

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Donleavy: a 21-year legal battle over his infamous novel

■ THE HISTORY OF THE GINGER MAN
By J.P. Donleavy
Penguin, £12

THIS vast, exasperating but greatly entertaining volume is Donleavy's account of his restless life as an itinerant Irish-American, and in particular of his 21-year legal battle with Maurice Girodias of the Olympia Press over his infamous novel *The Ginger Man*.

When, after a long, dispiriting search for a publisher, the book was finally brought out in Paris by Olympia, Donleavy was enraged to find it in the pornographic *Traveller's Companion* series, other titles in which included *White Thighs* and *The Whip Angels*. Worse still, Girodias tried to prevent the book's publication in England, claiming that the rights were his. Litigation ensued.

Strangely, Donleavy intertwines his account of all this with the story of his friend Gainor Stephen Crist, an eccentric American with a "splendidly mystical way of wasting time", who provided the inspiration for Sebastian Dangerfield, the fictional Ginger Man.

Crist lurches across these pages, along with Brendan Behan and other professional Irishmen whom Donleavy took up with when he was studying at Trinity College, Dublin after the war. Large parts of the book read like the ramblings of a drunk, but Donleavy's humour is infectious, and the story of his worsting of the cunning Girodias is deeply satisfying.

■ A PRIVATE VIEW
By Anita Brookner
Penguin, £5.99

"WHY should life seem exciting only if there's the possibility of throwing it away?" This typically Brooknerian question is at the heart of this, her 14th novel, which explores the conflict between stagnation and self-destruction. George Bland — the name says it all — has lived a staid life while longing for retirement with his friend, Puttnam. When Puttnam suddenly dies, Bland's hopes of liberation seem over, until he is confronted with Katy Gibb and the possibility of "anarchic self-indulgence". *A Private View* should both delight Brookner lovers, and confirm the criticisms of her detractors. If her evocation of a claustrophobic world is as strong as ever, so too is her cynicism and obsessive introspection.

■ COME AND TELL ME SOME LIES
By Raffaella Barker
Penguin, £5.99

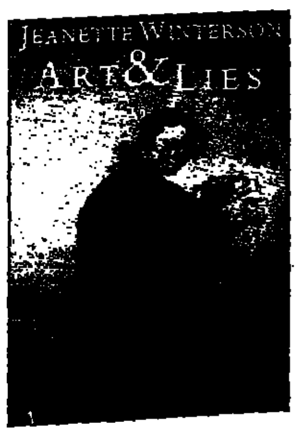
THE poet George Barker was powerfully attractive to women. Two fell in love with him simply from reading his poetry, and ended by having his children. In this lightly fictionalised account of her childhood, his daughter Raffaella (Gabriella) recalls the family's rackety Norfolk household, a bohemian stronghold of dogs, hens, and wild children, where the adults retire to the "drinking room" on Saturday nights. Gabriella is torn between pride and embarassment at her unconventional parents — an ambivalence that runs through this amusing but wistful book.

■ A SMALL PLACE IN ITALY
By Eric Newby
Picador, £5.99

AS AN escaped POW in 1943 Newby fell in love twice: first with a girl called Wanda, who subsequently became his wife, and then with the Apennine region of Italy, where, many years later, they bought a near-derelict farmhouse. This is the tale of its transformation from a mouldering structure where umbrellas were used in bed, to a habitable house. Newby glides from twinkling anecdote to sadness as his lonely paradise is slowly engulfed by supermarkets and Toyotas.

■ RETURN TO THE DESERT
By David Praill
Fount, £6.99

TRAVELLING by foot and on camel, Anglican clergyman David Praill journeyed the length of the Holy Land, from Mount Hermon to Mount Sinai, the mountain where Moses received the Ten Commandments. It took him a biblical 40 days. Praill writes evocatively of the silence of the desert and finds in that uncompromising wilderness not only a remarkable resilience in nature, but the spiritual resonance of the Old Testament. His enthusiasm can be a bit relentless, but his energy and goodwill shine through.



■ ART AND LIES
By Jeanette Winterson
Vintage, £6.99

IT IS the year 2000, and three characters are travelling on a train. They are Picasso, Handel and Sappho — though not, or not directly, the ones readers will know. Dividing the narrative into three ranting monologues, they discuss modern culture. A plethora of ideas — time, love, death, art, homelessness, castration — crowd the pages, jostling any semblance of plot into irrelevance. Winterson is wilfully obscure. She intersperses chunks of German and Latin with her prose, and transcribes an excerpt from the score of *Der Rosenkavalier*. But her exuberant lyricism can be mesmerising.

■ ENTERTAINING ANGELS
By Marita van der Vyver
Penguin, £4.99

DISTRAUGHT about her failed marriage and a string of miscarriages, Griet, a writer and collector of fairytales, decides to gas herself. But she's put off, as she later tells her therapist, by a dead cockroach in the oven. Her big problem, she realises, is that she has always judged men by the contents of their bookshelves rather than the colour of their underpants. Salvation arrives in the form of a heavenly young man whose uncomplicated eroticism helps her rediscover friends, family, and her belief in magic. A delicious blend of humour and insight.

● *Hazel Leslie, Sarah Hall, Jake Michie, Lucy Lethbridge, Rachel Campbell-Johnston, Nicki Household.*

Nips, tucks and stabs

Cosmetic surgery turns to murder at a health farm. Marcel Berlins learns not to trust face values

■ UNDER MY SKIN
By Sarah Dunant
Hamish Hamilton, £14.99

THE very words induce a frisson of apprehension and distaste: rhinoplasty, liposuction, silicone implants. This is the vocabulary of "aesthetic" (what used to be "cosmetic") surgery, evoking images of botched operations and repellent disfigurement; of incompetent or malevolent surgeons wielding their scalpels on pathetic women, whose only mistake was to desire everlasting beauty and youth.

Hannah Wolfe, gritty feminist private eye, is sucked into the world of artificial glamour by way of an investigation at a fashionable, women-only health farm: someone has been sabotaging the expensive treatments, slipping slimy carp into the Jacuzzi and leaving a Marks & Spencer senior buyer with an indigo face after a peat bath. Such practical japery takes a more serious turn, and may be linked to the vicious anonymous notes sent to the Harley Street guru of aesthetic knifing, Maurice Marchant, husband of Olivia, the health farm's stunning, but much cosmetically re-arranged, owner.

The dedicated Wolfe, in the cause of verisimilitude, researches these painful subjects in some detail. Her own emotional and sexual life dormant, and still suffering the psychological effects of a vicious attack which has affected her own looks, the vulnerable Wolfe sleuths carelessly and dangerously. A frenzied killing leads to gruesome discoveries of the realities behind the smiling façade of the beauty business and the people who control it. The climax is shocking, violent and disturbing.

As is her custom, Sarah Dunant does not shirk from confronting the moral issues provoked by her heroine's inquiries — about our society's perceptions of ageing and of physical attraction, and the lengths to which women are prepared to go (and to be exploited) in conforming to the goal of looking good for men. It is that ability to integrate a stimulating intellectual argument with her thoroughly structured plot, spot-on atmosphere and convincing characters that places Dunant very near the top of modern British crime writing.

I have one caveat. Hannah Wolfe herself is becoming a tiny bit too serious, lacking the insouciance of her previous two books. I know people keep trying to kill her, which cannot be good for her sense of humour, but she could lighten up just a little.

Dunant: moral issues

Two insiders reveal the banality of London's underworld, says Laurie Taylor

Mythmakers: Reggie (left) and Ronnie Kray at home in the East End — "just bloody thugs, simple as that. Leeches"

Gormless in gangsterland

■ THE KRAYS' LIEUTENANT
By Albert Donoghue and Martin Short
Smith Gryphon, £15.99

■ THE AUTOBIOGRAPHY OF A THIEF
By Bruce Reynolds
Bantam Press, £15.99

AFTER all the sentimental and self-justifying nonsense which recent films and autobiographies have wrapped around the life and times of the Krays and the Great Train Robbers, it is a huge relief to discover two accounts by well-placed insiders which are so resolutely critical and unromantic.

If Albert Donoghue had not waited 25 years before telling the story of his life as Reggie Kray's right-hand man, we might even have been spared some of the sillier notions about the Twins as basically decent and charitable East End boys who provided a valuable protection service for a few harmless if shady club owners, and who never hurt anyone but other criminals who had stepped out of line. Donoghue has a much simpler view. The Firm were "just bloody thugs, simple as that. Leeches." Ronnie and Reggie Kray never carried out any skilled theft, burglary or robbery themselves. They would simply wait until they had news of someone else's success and then pile in and demand their cut.

Most of their celebrated business enterprises, such as the gambling club, Esmeralda's Barn, were hopelessly disorganised and fatally undermined by their unsavoury reputation and their reckless pursuit of short-term gains. Neither of them could read or write beyond a normal six-year-old's ability and neither could they count or calculate. "They had just three things going for them: considerable physical strength, a ruthless capacity to direct it and instinctive animal cunning."

Donoghue is hardly neutral. The evidence he gave against the Krays was crucial to the prosecution. But there is nothing vindictive about his account. It is rather as though, under Martin Short's expert prompting, he had grudgingly decided to tell the murderously banal story of life with the Krays because of a mounting irritation with the accumulating myths about their evil empire. As he sardonically reflects: "I'm amazed I stuck it out so long with the Firm. I must have been mad. I could have had a good life running my own decorating business."

Bruce Reynolds has less subversive intentions. As the mastermind behind the Great Train Robbery he is hardly about to admit that it involved anything other than a considerable degree of cunning and forethought. But his story stands apart from other criminal reminiscences for its almost poignant anti-heroism. Even as a tearaway delinquent, Reynolds was always less interested in asserting his superiority over the "mugs" he robbed than in using his gains to get what he conceived as the good life: a villa in the South of France, a stack of modern jazz records, an attractive wife and family.

The poignancy lies not in his eventual failure to achieve such conventional goals, but in his gradual recognition of how their relentless pursuit nearly deadened his own sensibilities and deprived him of the woman he loved. This is one of those rare crime biographies which is skilful enough to capture both the immediate excitement of crime and the dull price it so often extacts from even the most successful of its adherents.

Explain yourself, woman

In the male-dominated workplace, women are misunderstood because they speak a different language

■ TALKING FROM 9 TO 5
By Deborah Tannen
Virago, £16.99

THE BOY can't help it. He was meant to be loud and talkative, and for longer than anybody else. Deborah Tannen would never say this. In her scrupulously balanced book, subtitled: *How women's and men's conversational styles affect who gets heard, who gets credit and what gets done at work*, the Professor of Linguistics at Georgetown University comes not to dig up prejudices but to bury the hatchet. Men and women are inclined to different conversational styles with equal potential for effectiveness, Tannen says; in order to improve both corporate and personal performances we must understand the styles we use and hear.

This book, which follows Tannen's *You Just Don't Understand* and *That's Not What I Meant*, is not, she regrets, "a bilingual dictionary in which you can look up a phrase and find out what it means in the foreign country inhabited by the other gender". There are no tricks to learn, all styles can work well *with others who share that style* (her italics). With those who do not share or will not understand, there is plenty of room for misinterpretation and frustration.

Those who do not employ the typically male style of banter — teasing, playful put-downs, making statements, avoiding losing face — may not appreciate that its challenges expect challenge in return, that silence may be taken as assent. The typically female style of taking into account the effect of what you say — making suggestions, downplaying authority to avoid "flexing muscle" — may be read as lacking confidence instead of indicating a reluctance to reveal confidence.

Should we, for the sake of better communication, adopt a different style? Those who speak in ways that are not expected of them can expect some stick: they will not be liked "and may even be seen as having psychological problems". The fact that Baroness Thatcher was often described as bossy seems odd, Tannen notes, since she *was* the boss.

THE female style seems more open to misinterpretation: asking questions may be seen as revealing ignorance, rather than as a way of getting (and sharing) information; apologising is assumed to be an acceptance of blame rather than a ritual conversation smoother. In workplaces previously run by men, the male style is often established and "women and others whose styles are different are not starting out equal but at a disadvantage".

Tannen challenges assumptions. For example, women are thought to focus more on "interaction" and less on information, but a linguist who observed two political interviewers, one male and one female, noted that the woman asked unbiased questions without expressing her opinions, seeking information. The man voiced his opposing views, was emotional and turned the interview into a competitive confrontation, seeking interaction. No, this was not Jeremy Paxman; the interviewers were Australian.

BRIGID CALLAGHAN

Half of Josephine Hart's new novel is in the form of a play

Dead chic but too playful

■ OBLIVION
By Josephine Hart
Chatto & Windus, £12.99

THERE is a sickness in Josephine Hart's novels. Dark forces — lust, revenge, murder — lurk beneath the impeccable surface. Hell in Hartland has designer trappings and a cleaning lady. Her politicians, publishers, journalists and lawyers live in beautiful homes. Nobody is ever plain or overweight or scruffy. Even the prose is well groomed: spare, minimalist, chic.

This is Hart's third novel: slim like its precursors, but not so perfectly formed. Death is not waiting in the wings: it is centre-stage. *Oblivion* is one long — or, rather, short — meditation on the fading hold of the dead over the living.

Hart has had a varied career as a publisher, television presenter and novelist. She has also produced several award-winning West End plays. Her natural inclinations, judging from this novel, lean towards the fringe. Almost half of her new book is in the form of an avant-garde ensemble piece. The play within the play, the film within the film — as any number of auteurs, from Shakespeare to Truffaut, have shown — can be a most effective device in the performing arts. But in a novel, or in this one, it feels like an imposition. Instead of echoing the central characters' predicament, or precipitating the denouement, it merely distracts.

Andrew Bolton is a journalist whose wife, Laura, his teenage sweetheart, has died. He has slid, too easily, into an affair with Sarah, his long-limbed researcher. They make love in hotel rooms under the watchful eye of Laura, who is not ready to be replaced. Despite his professional success as a media polymath, or perhaps because of it, Andrew feels inferior when confronted by those with intellectual gravitas: the parents of his dead wife, or Catherine Samuelson, the famous playwright who has grants him a rare interview and lets him watch her new work in progress.

It is her play, called *The Book* — Hart's neat, Absurdist joke — which forms the core of this book. The cast includes Max, the mincing Master of Death and his gallery of dead characters — a four-year-old girl, an IRA killer, an abused wife, a chilly upper-class adulterer, among them, all clamouring to tell their stories to ward off oblivion.

In Hart's first two books, the reader is drawn inexorably into their tainted heart: the doomed affair between the father and his son's fiancée in *Damage*; the revenger's tragedy of *Sin*. *Oblivion* is more contemplative, less focused, and the true drama — Laura's grieving mother as avenging angel — never quite takes off.

It is easy to see why Hart's books are made into films. The images which linger are strangely cinematic: *Sin*'s heroine who dresses up in the clothes of the cousin she hates; the lover's elaborate bondage ritual in *Damage*. Even the lines seem tailor-made for the posters: "Damaged people are dangerous. They know they can survive"; and now, "Happiness is a decision. Make it. And don't cry". Where *Damage* and *Sin* have gone, *Oblivion* is sure to follow: into celluloid via bestsellerdom. Only this time, it might make a better movie than book.

GINNY DOUGARY

TIMES BOOKS

THURSDAY

Alistair Horne on Churchill's declining years; Piers Paul Read on John Paul II and the Jesuits; Philip Howard on William Golding's posthumous novel; Michael Hofmann on Malcolm Lowry's letters; Brian Alderson on a history of children literature

Take my wife...please

Mid-life crises, marital strife and infidelity are always good for a laugh

■ CASTING OFF
By Libby Purves
Sceptre, £15.99

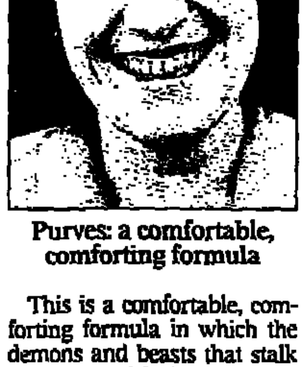
■ THE TENNIS PARTY
By Madeleine Wickham
Black Swan, £5.99

LIFE being congenitally untidy, its epiphanies — those revelations of "particular and overwhelming emotional violence" — have a habit of arriving at awkward moments.

In *Casting Off*, Libby Purves's heroine is last seen by her family heading out to sea in a boat, leaving behind an open-mouthed husband and sulky daughter who fondly imagined they were going home after a sailing weekend. Out there, negotiating wind and waves, Joanna Gurney is at liberty to cope with her mid-life crisis in solitude — a privilege which busy women will appreciate.

Joanna's flight may have been totally out of character, but Keith, her modest, kindly solicitor husband, would have been well advised to sit out events. Instead, he reports his runaway wife to the local police. The result is headlines in the local and national media which, in turn, lead to Joanna's dodging press and husband all the way down the south coast, acquiring two refugees on the run from a press tycoon and casting her nearest and dearest into complete uproar.

True peril on the sea, of both the emotional and briny variety, is confined to the occasional cry of anguish and a tipping boat, but some home truths are hauled out of the locker and shaken up. As a consequence, the Gurneys' lives are changed for the better.



Purves: a comfortable, comforting formula

This is a comfortable, comforting formula in which the demons and beasts that stalk the unvarnished fairy tale have been banished, and the author exploits it with humour, humanity and with relish for the enjoyably mundane — if you wish to know how to heat up soup in a heaving cockpit or the mysteries of gybing, look no further. Therein lies the novel's appeal: we Keiths and Joannas crave happy endings and proof that affection can survive the toughest storms. All of which the author unselfishly provides.

Sharper penned and less forgiving, Madeleine Wickham assembles an unlikeable bunch of so-called friends in *The Tennis Party*. Tennis may be the excuse for the gathering, but money supplies the social adhesive and the divisive factor during a weekend which sees the host endeavouring to sell dodgy investment plans to his guests, a husband's appalled discovery of his wife's liabilities and a divorced wife turning up determined to seduce her former spouse right under the nose of his present one.

Plot and entertainment hinge on who is going to behave the worst, and, unsurprisingly, by Sunday afternoon the score is no love at all. Nevertheless, being predictable does not mean you cannot entertain.

The author extracts some comic moments, is capable of tenderness and, behind the sometimes plonking characterisation, lurks a subtler writer.

ELIZABETH BUCHAN

NORTH OF THE THAMES

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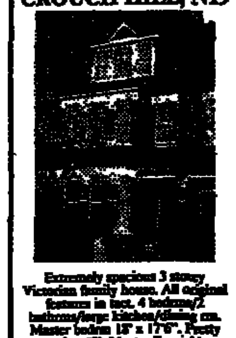

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BEDS/Bucks. Nr Woburn. Two good houses (4 beds + 2 Baths and 6 Beds + 3 Baths) in 49 acres pasture about one hour from London. Many outbuildings. Rural location and views. Available separately or together. Warringtons tel 01234 823661

BUCKINGHAMSHIRE

BUCKINGHAM 1ml Listed Grade II 6 bed. 2 bath Stonehouse in village nr Stowe Park. 12mls London BR. £285K. Tel: 01280 814452

DEVON & CORNWALL

TORQUAY PENTHOUSE FLAT

overlooking Torquay Harbour

Own entrance hall with lift. 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, cloakroom, lounge, dining room, kitchen. Private Parking.

£200,000

Tel: 01373 827926 (day) 01242 227683 (eve & w/end)

DITTISHAM-ON-DART

Perfect for extended sailing family. Unusual holiday hse converted fr 300yr old cottage in apple orchard running down to R. Dart. 3 beds, 1½ bths, top flr, sun-drenched liv. space, views, FP. Guest flt: 2 bdr, bth, kit/dng, orig. living room. [illegible], studio/games rm, can slp 12+. £185,000.

Tel: 0171 607 4989

GOLF/SAILING ST MELLION

Secluded modern southfacing 4 bed, 3 bathrm bungalow, 2100 sq. ft, in mature ½ acre garden. Ideal golf/yachting interests. Wonderful country views. 15 mins Plymouth (airport). Fully furnished £185,000.

Tel: 01752 845375.

LOOE VALLEY

Spacious architect designed home inc. self-cont. annexe, in v. secluded valley. 7 beds (4 en-suite), bath, 2 ff kits, 3 receps o/looking ½ acre garden. Ponds fed by trout stream. D/G, C/H, cpts/curts. Gge, c/port & out/bldgs. ½ hr Plymouth.

£190,000

Tel: 01579 343416

DEVON & CORNWALL

TOTNES, DEVON.

Fully furnished and renovated 18th century, Listed Grade II* Country House. Over an acre mature parks.

£230,000.

For more details call 01803 867295 Between 8-9 a.m.

COUNTY HOMESEARCH CO A prof personal service for purchasers Details 01872 223349

EAST ANGLIA

RURAL NORFOLK,

London 90 min. Completely restored Grade II 16th Cent Manor, 7 bed, 6 bath, 3 recept'n, F/hse kitch, util'y rm. Range of barns/stables around 2 courtyards. 12 acres. Mrs Frost Wkdays (9-5).

Tel: 01603 870606

Price guide £495,000

SUFFOLK. WOODBRIDGE.

Superb 8 bedroom period country house in exclusive 16 acre estate. Historical interest, Unique Architecture, Exceptional Quality. Large cottage, Tennis court, Stabling, Gardens, Woodland & Paddocks. Development potential. Mins from town centre, London rail link, Sailing & Golf. Anxious owner has already purchased US property and must sell.

OIRO £550,000.

Tel: 01394 383646

CONSTABLE COUNTRY

Lovely spacious 3 room 16th Century Grade II listed cottage, many original features - oak beams, open hearth, easy access London - weekend retreat. Beautiful cottage garden.

£49,950.

01473 822337.

NORTH NORFOLK COAST

BRANCASTER STAITHE

Cosy 3 Bed house situated in quiet close within 200 yds of sailing club and long distance coast path. Garage, patio garden. Mirror dinghy and outboard included in price.

£56,000.

Tel: 01923 854 905

Wkends and evenings.

N. SUFFOLK. 6 miles Diss. Sizeable Victorian country cottage. 5 bedrooms. 3 baths, 2 receps. family kitchen. easy garden. Ref 3195. £115,000 Thos Wm Gaze & Son Diss 01379 641341

NORTH NORFOLK Auction 30th June. Georgian Rectory & Buildings in 4 acres (nr Fakenham)* 17th C. Ruin in 4½ acres with Barns (to rebuild 6-bed. Country House)* Dilapidated flint Cottages in 1¼ acres. * 7 acres * 25 acres. (nr Holt)* Exceptional Building Plot 1½ acres in lovely position (Cley-next-the-Sea). Shrive, Holt. Tel: (01263) 713305/4.

WALBERSWICK Near Southwold Spacious new house in approx ½ acre with ground floor annexe 3 reception rooms 3 bedrooms bedsitting room 4 bathrooms 2 ensuite 2 kitchens etc double garage offers around £225,000 Neal Sons & Fletcher 01394 382263

ESSEX

CHELMSFORD

Exceptional Victorian house. 3 reception, large hall, 6 bed, 2 bath, gas CH, cellar, conservatory. Well established garden, 1 acre with grass tennis court & summer house. Planning permission for ½ acre (ie property could be divided). Freehold £410,000.

Tel: 01245 357457

PLESHEY

Fine Edwardian country house, in landscaped gardens & grounds of 40 acres. 3/4 receps. kit/breakfast rm, master bed suite, 5 further beds, 2 further baths. Tennis court, s/pool, formal gdns, paddocks, woodland, air strip, staff cottage. For sale as whole or 2 lots. Chelmsford 8 mls & L'pool St. 35 mins, Stansted/M11 17 mls.

OIRO £725,000

Tel: 01245 237551

HANTS., DORSET, AND I.O.W.

NEAR WINCHESTER

Mews style house, pleasant village location between Winchester and Southampton, end of terrace. 2 double beds, large kitchen, excellent decorative order, no chain. Offers in region of £69,950

Tel: 01734 328797

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HANTS., DORSET, AND I.O.W.

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Spacious G.F flat in Mansion house retaining many original features. Magnificent views of Hamble river/ Sot'on water. Open plan living room with galley type kitchen & break bar (approx size 25' x 18'), cellar, patio & dbl garage, 2 mins Warsash hard. £105,000 ono.

Tel: 01489 572087

Lane Fox

NETHER WALLOP

Stockbridge 5 miles, Andover 6½ miles.

A CHARMING RECENTLY RENOVATED COTTAGE SITUATED BESIDE THE WALLOP BROOK.

2 reception rooms, 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms. Double garage. Garden with small pond.

Winchester Office 01962 869999

PETERSFIELD. Beamed 16c period town house. 4 beds. 4 recep. walled garden. Completely renovated to superior standard. Beautiful Hampshire countryside. 55 mins Waterloo. Tel: 01730 266988 (Office) 01730 263604 (evenings). Guide £200,000 (private sale).

POOLE Immac. sunny penthouse. 3 beds (2 en-suite), lux kitchen & fittings. dble gge. 700 yards sea. £246,000. Mob: 0836 383402

HERTFORDSHIRE

HERTS/BUCKS BORDER

4 bdrm det. Victorian family house in quiet village nr. Tring. (12 mins M25, 40 mins Euston). 3 recep, fit. kit., lge attic/play rm, easily maintained feature gdn. £250,000. Tel: 01442 825282 (eves/wknds)

KNEBWORTH

Extremely large (c 4000 sq ft) luxurious detached house in ½ acre gardens. 3 reception rooms, all bedrooms en-suite, guest bedroom & separate bathroom. Ground floor self-contained apartment. Close motorways. London 30 mins.

Offers Circa £525,000

01438 815353

KENT

FAMILY HOME

Situated in a Kent village, substantial family det property, 4 dble bedrms, 2 ensuite, large sitting rm, dining rm, kitchen, utility, dble garage. Large conservatory, 1/2 acre grounds. Good location for schools.

£295,000 ONO.

Tel: 01732 464274.

EXCEPTIONAL Country property with views to N.Downs. Ashford/M20 3 miles. Stream intersected grounds, 5 bedroom Listed house, oast cottage and period barns (with p.p.) in over 10 acres. Price Guide: £550,000. Calcutt Maclean, Bridge St. Wye, Ashford TN25 5DP. 01233 812060

NORTH WEST

LANCASTER Modern 3 bdrm terraced hse. Front/back gdn, lnge, din. rm, fit. kit., guest wc & plenty of storage space. £37,000 o.n.o. Call Sylvia 01524 771380

OXFORDSHIRE

OXFORD

Small town house, constructed 1970-80 with multitude of unique features. 700 yds city centre. Designed to highest standards comfort, warmth, security & aesthetic appeal by owner for permanent occupation. Large music-room/lounge, kitchen, bathroom ground floor; 2 double bedrooms above, spacious balcony, library/workroom in attic. Small back garden. Owner leaving Oxford.

£120,000 nett.

Please Reply to: Box No 6937

CHARMING Wendlebury village. 4 bed. 2 bath. det house. Private sth facing garden. Ideal family home. Exc access M40, London 1 hr. £165,000. 01869 247088

GORING-ON-THAMES - Reading 10m (Paddington 22 mins). Contemporary house in outstanding Thameside setting with river frontage and mooring. Drawing rm with balcony and views over Thames. 2 further receps. 4 beds. Gdns about ½ acre Lane Fox 01734 846787

SCOTLAND

DUMFRIES & Galloway. Barnsoul Farm & wildlife area. Situated on the fringe of the Galloway Hills. Holiday Lodges & log cabins for sale & hire on very scenic farm. Tel A J Wight on 01387 730249 7 days

SOMERSET & AVON

SOMERSET/ WILTSHIRE BORDER

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£290,000/£160,000.

Plus 2 courtyard cottages.

Tel: 0171 722 3716

01963 370112

CENTRAL BATH

Garden flat in Georgian house, 2 bedrooms, living rm, cellar, unusual south facing paved garden with springfed ponds, adjoining Victoria Park.

£76,000.

Garage optional extra.

Tel: 01225 330289 Or 01530 263585

CHEDDAR VILLAGE

Converted watermill on Cheddar Yeo (National Rivers Authority Class 1A). ¼ Acre. Central to village. Local stone. GCH. Ideal early retired.

£137,500

Viewing imperative.

Tel: 01934 742 542 (Eve)

SURREY

GODSTONE VILLAGE

1700's Cottage, 3 mins from M25. A1 office approval on ground floor, residential for 2 floors above. Large garden & parking for 2 cars. 2-4 bedrooms, 1 WC, 2 bathroom, kitchen/breakfast room. Totally secluded. £155,000.

01883 744525 (Office)

01342 712071 (Eve)

COOMBE HILL

Private road location on the lower slopes of Coombe Hill, approx ½ mile from station, a substantial home of great character with large south facing garden, six bedrooms, spacious and adaptable ground floor including self-contained office suite.

£785,000

LORDS

0181 336 1551

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NR HASLEMERE, Fernhurst Selection of cottages & large det hse in wonderful hilltop pictured Estate all for own improvement Fr £75,000 F/H div. to £325,000 Barton Wyatt 01344 842857

PEPER HAROW, Nr Godalming. Grand mansion houses requiring some alteration with own gdns down to River Wye. £125-£395,000. Open view today 12-3.00 pm. Access of A3. Barton Wyatt 01344 842857

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0181 852 2195 or 0374 728808

SHEFFIELD PARK

NR. HAYWARDS HEATH, EAST SUSSEX

17 only architect designed homes in the grounds of a Grade I listed mansion. ½ mile long private drive with security gates, tennis courts and parkland.

Remaining 8 comprise 3 & 4 beds, 2 baths, 2 & 3 receptions. Prices from £147,500 to £207,500.

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Tel: 01730 812442.

REGENCY BRIGHTON

Spacious & elegant dble fronted Grade 2 flat in prvt Crescent. Meticulously restored with original features incl columns, covings, ceilings, mahogany fireplaces/doors & marble fireplaces, 7 rooms incl 3 dbl bdrms, lge kitchen/diner & 23 ft recep. GCH. Pvt pkg, no chain, long lse. £99950.

Tel: 0171 723 3[illegible]

SUSSEX

ALDWICK BAY ESTATE

Direct beach access. 6 mls S. Chichester. Superb sea views. Boathouse, 4 car gge, UPVC throughout. 5 bdrms, 2 bthrms (1 en-suite), shower rm, hall, din. rm, lge kit & lnge, 2 balcs. o'looking sea, mature gdns. £295,000.

01243 265946

BRIGHTON sea front. 2 bed, 2 bath lux flat. Garage. Porter. £79,950. Tel: 01273 206786

CHICHESTER 5 miles south. Carefully updated period farmhse in tranquil rural surroundings. Hall, 3 receps. kit/b'fast, boot rm, playrm/bed 5, clks, 4 further beds, bath e/s, shower, wc. oil ch. 80' barn, stabling. gdns + paddock 1.5 acres approx £380,000 f/h Stride & Son 01243 782626

CHICHESTER 6 miles south Approx ¼ mile Itchenor/ Harbourside 1930's s/d family hse Hall, sit/din rm, kit/b'fst, util. clks. 3 beds. bth. poss 2 attic rms (Subj planning Gas ch Gge. large gdns £138,500 f/h Stride & Son 01243 782626

WALES

LLANDYSUL

15 Miles Cardigan and coast. Riverside cottage on River Teifi. 2 Bedrooms, 2 reception rooms, modern kitchen and bathroom, CH, river bank patio, salmon and trout fishing.

£39,950 ono.

Tel: 01344 53270

WEST WALES

Attractive large detached 3 dbl bedrms village house - 5 miles Fishguard. Excellent order. Panoramic country views. Central all Pembs coast, beaches, walks.

£75,000.

Full details

Tel (01865) 775385 after 7pm.

GOWER Langland Bay Lux 2/3 bed flat/mais nr beach/golf crse permanent holiday/ retirement home. Free 5 yr golf club membership. Mortgage avail £136k-£196K 01792 548111 T

MARINA SWANSEA Lux lge 3 bed mais Berth/mortgage avail £110,000: 01792 648111 t

WARWICKSHIRE

RURAL

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Residential beautifully restored Medieval Long house, dating back to 14th C. The Grove, situated nr The Belfry PGA/HQ. Lies in 7 acres with landscaped gardens. Has excellent accomodation inc. 4 beds, 2 baths/showers, kitchen, breakfast room, dining room, 2 drawing rooms, magnificent Oak panelled lounge with large woodburner. Oak beamed throughout.

£495,000 ono

Tel: 01213 130143

WILTSHIRE

NEAR SALISBURY

Grade II listed stone cottage, 4/5 bedrooms, 2 reception, study, kitchen/eating area, bathroom, shower room, utility area, double garage, garden. All in ¾ acre with fabulous views. Tisbury station 2½ miles (fast London/Waterloo line).

Freehold £240,000

Tel: 01747 870818

NR DEVIZES.

Bright, spacious period thatched village property. Newly restored. Period features inc. Exposed beams, 2 inglenooks, vaulted ceilings. 4 beds, 3 receps, 2 baths, cloakroom, kit/b'fast room, 1.5 acres, outbuildings, paddock, stream. Downland views.

£210,000 Sole agents

0171 352 9482

WOODBOROUGH

Thatched charming cottage, beams, open fire, 3 bedrms, quality pine kitchen with Rayburn, CH. Quiet, sunny private garden. Easily maintained house & garden. Desirable village with pub. BR 5 mins (London 1 hr)

£129,950.

Tel: 01672 851682.

PITTON

Period Detached 3 bedroomed cottage. 6 miles from Cathedral city of Salisbury. Walking distance of award winning pub. Excellent condition throughout with lovely views.

£170,000 ono.

Tel: 01722 712 400.

YORKSHIRE

AGA

WITH TERRACED COTTAGE ATTACHED

ROSEDALE N.Y. MOORS

Open aspect to fnt, terrific views to rear. Great for walking, riding, shooting + snow in winter. 2 up 2 down. C.H. Car standing. Gdn. Suit anyone with any sense. We have to move. £56,500 that's all

01751 417533

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By directors of IT company, Quality furnished residential property with 8+ bedrooms within 25 miles of Cheltenham.

Please contact

01734 892005

RENTALS

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ACCOMMODATION to let in Hampstead/St Johns Wood. Bond & Co 0171-431 2000

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BARBICAN 2 bed fully furnished flat, From 1 July. £500pw. Details 0181 769 7308 day/eve

BELSIZE PARK Stunning [illegible] 3 bed 2 bath flat. Large recep [illegible] 60' pvt garden, £460pw. furn/unfurn. 0181 446 1268

CHELSEA fantastic double fronted house for 6 months rent. 4 bedrooms, 2 reception, dining room, large study (5th bedroom) fully fitted kitchen garden patio. £1,400pw 0385 261868 or 0171 225 0102

CHELSEA SW3 Fully furnished 1 bedroom luxury flat. 1st floor + balcony £400pw Greenacre & Co Tel 0171 720 0661/2

CHELSEA SW3 balcony apt. dble bedrm. Light recep. Lifts. Porters. £250pw. 0171 622 8826

DOVER ST W1 2 bedroom luxury apt opposite Ritz £450pw. Long let 0171 355 1186

FULHAM SW6. 2 bed lux house by river & tube. Fully furnished. TV, MW, W/D, DW. £425 pw. Tel: 0956 891882

HAMPSTEAD VILLAGE Charming gdn flat, newly dec. 2 dble beds, 2 baths en suite, lge kit/diner, lounge. Nr tube. Park permit £340pw 0171 794 7439

IDYLLIC Barn conversion in picturesque village. 5 bdrms 2 baths 3 receps, library, studio lge kit with Aga, pool, pond with ducks, paddocks, stabling. Waterloo 38 mins. OIRO £3,000 pcm 01483 208615

JERMYN STREET SW1 Large 2 bedroom l/furn mansion apt £550pw Tel (SJR) 0171 495 6114/5 Fax 495 6113

KENSINGTON W8. 4 Bed, 2 Baths, dble Recep. Kit. Dining rm. Newly decorated. £750 pw. 0181 674 0465/0171 2291067

KENS W8 Mod dec 2 dble bd flat 2 bth (1 e/s) rec f/f w/m/d, nr tube £245pw 0181 953 8911

KNIGHTSBRIDGE Superb interior designed flat 3 double bedrooms, 3 bathrooms (2 en-suite with jacuzzi). High ceilings, double reception room, eat-in kitchen, 24hr security. £665pw 0385 261868 0171 225 0102

KNIGHTSBRIDGE Excellent quality 2 double bedroom flat large reception fully fitted kitchen, 2 bathrooms. £400pw 0385 261868 0171 225 0102

KNIGHTSBRIDGE [illegible] quality studio flat in prestigious garden square. [illegible] condition. £200pw 0385 261868 0171 225 0102

LITTLE VENICE 2/3 bed garden flat. Furn/Unfurn. £500 pw neg. Tel: 0171 266 3766

MAIDA VALE W9 Elegant large bright spac 2 bd 2 bth flat, recep F/F kit, w/m/d, gch, balcony. £240pw 0181 953 8911

MAYFAIR Luxury apartments 1-5 bedrooms Short/long let From £300pw 0171 355 1186

MAYFAIR 6th flr new redec flat with porter 2 bed shwr rm f/f kit balc £475pw 0171-408 2444.

QUEENS GATE SW7 large 4 bed, 2 recep, split level-mais with roof terrace. Tastefully deco[illegible] 2 bath £950pw [illegible] Apartments 0171 722 5022

REGENTS PARK Off Up Harley St unfurn 2bd 2 bth mews hse gge £375pw 0171 224 0969

REGENTS PARK Luxury [illegible] bed apartment [illegible] Stickley + Kent 0171 267 2080

SHEPHERDS BUSH W12 4 split level garden maisonette, with 3 beds 2 baths 2 receps [illegible] W/facing gdn [illegible] Bayston 0181 [illegible]

SLOANE ST. Belgravia. Lux 3 bed. [illegible] £850pw incl CH/CHW. [illegible] 875552 or 0171 235 38[illegible]

SW1 brand new 2nd floor 2/3 bed [illegible] 2 bath [illegible] 0171 408 2444

W2 Elegant spacious studio Sep. kit. bathrm, in pretty tree lined street [illegible] 0171 [illegible] 2879 [illegible]

W1 Lux 4 [illegible] tube & [illegible] Phone 01923 856017 after 6pm.

W1 St James's [illegible] 1-2-3 bed apts Tel (SJR) 0171 495 6114/5 [illegible]

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TAYLOR WOODROW Mallorca quality 2/3 bedroom apartments on [illegible] coast including Porto Colom, Cala Ratjada, Font De Sa Cala etc. From £78,000. [illegible] Special inspection visits just £99 per couple, subject to usual conditions. Properties also in Menorca and Moraira Costa Blanca 0181 893 2424 or 2608 24hrs.

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FF 1,500,000

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FRANCE

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£55,000

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NORMANDY Beautiful city hse. [illegible] 3800 sqm [illegible] 850000. Tel: 0033 33 830706 Fax 0033 1 48478502

ROMANTIC CHATEAUX. 64 acres, lake. 100km Cherbourg £530,000 01799 521162

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LOT farmhouse, almost restored, 1 hectare grounds. 600,000FF. Info: Tel 0033 65 21 40 37 - Fax 65 21 40 38

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TUSCANY

[illegible]

PLUS

[illegible]

For Colour Brochure

Tel 0181 [illegible]

Fax 0181 [illegible]

PORTUGAL

VERDIZELA, LISBON AREA.

[illegible] South of Lisbon in exclusive residential area. [illegible] Lounge/Dining rm, Gallery, 3 baths, Dbl gge, FF Kitchen, Study, Utility, Pool. Set in 1,000 sq m plot. 3 miles from Ocean beaches.

£395,000

Full details 01256 336243 / [illegible]

ALGARVE Ownership shares in large, luxury villa for sale. 4 bedrooms/2 acres, with pool & [illegible] views. Near Quinta Do Lago. 01492 549051

VILLA SOL [illegible] plot for sale on the [illegible] championship golf course [illegible] information 01803 788425

SPAIN

MARBELLA NUEVA ANDALUCIA

[illegible] Large living/diner, with hand-made [illegible] 2 bedrooms with built-in wardrobes. Fitted kitchen. Spacious bathroom. Within [illegible] 3 golf courses. F/Hold. Offers over [illegible] for quick sale. Tel for photo: 01734 723377

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£23,500.

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U.S.A.

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Lakeside det air cond house, 4 beds, 2½ baths. Priv pool fully screened, built 1991, furnished, in superb order. Only 20 mins from Orlando airport. Good rental income. Sale price $125,000 (£78,125 approx). Poss. mortgage transfer with deposit $29,000 (£18,125 approx) or part exchange W.H.Y.

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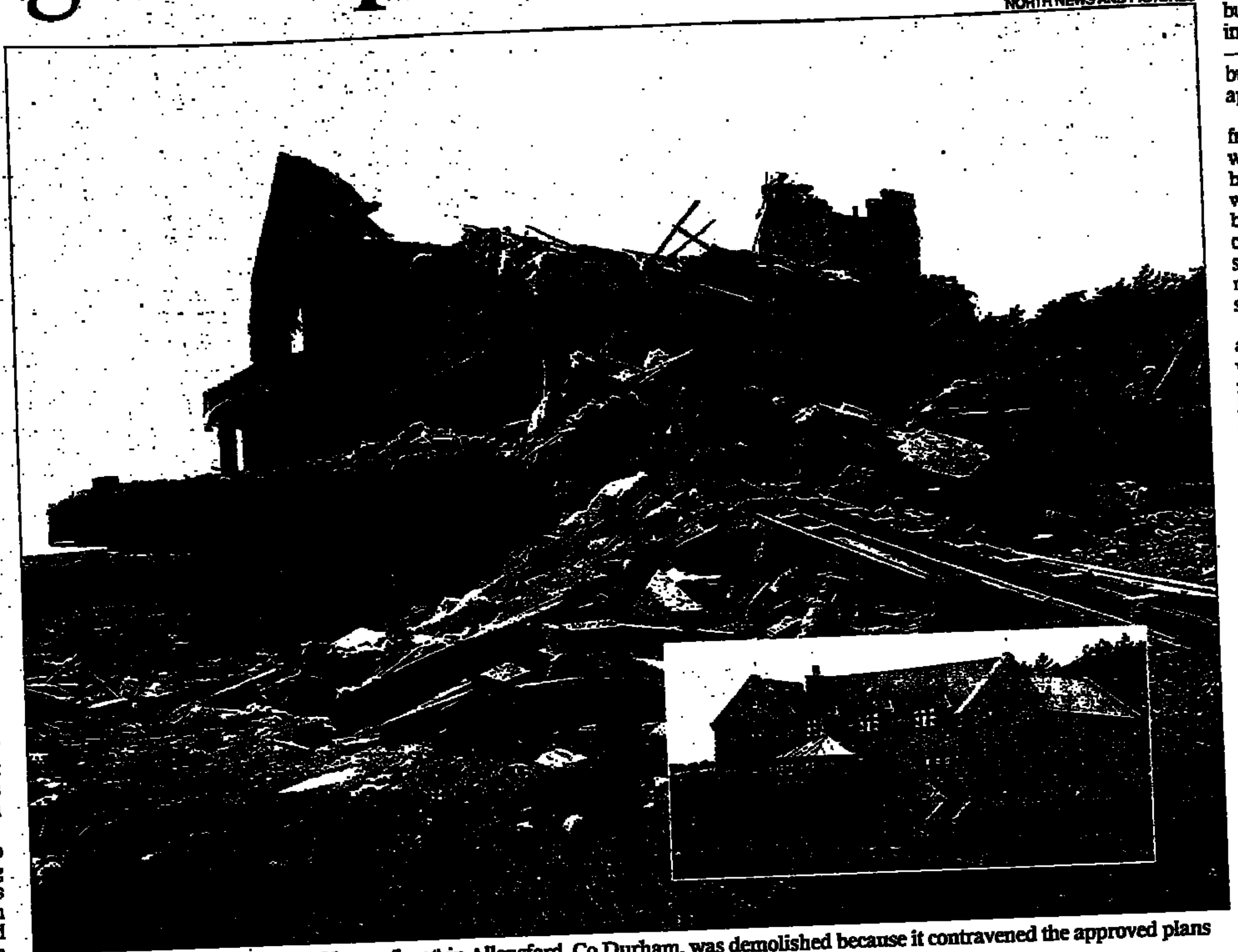
هكذا من الأصل

PROPERTY

Thinking of building a garden shed or a dog kennel? Be sure to check whether you need planning permission

What goes up can also come down


NORTH NEWS AND PICTURES

The £500,000 eight-bedroomed house (inset) in Allensford, Co Durham, was demolished because it contravened the approved plans

After Diane and Michael Young's dogs dug up the floor of their new kitchen, gnawed the units and had eaten the washing machine door, the couple built a £3,000 wooden kennel and concrete run to stop the dalmatian and boxer further destroying their home in Bath. They also decided to build a greenhouse and shed in their garden (see picture below right).

Only when someone complained to Bath City Council did the Youngs realise they needed planning permission. In March, their retrospective joint planning application for all three was refused because, the council said: "The erection of the dog kennel would seriously detract from the amenities enjoyed by adjoining residents and from the character of this part of the conservation area."

The Youngs intend to appeal against the council's instruction to pull the kennel down, and are reapplying for permission to keep the shed and greenhouse. "We didn't realise we needed planning permission," says Mrs Young. "When planning officers came round to measure up, the shed was over the permitted size for a conservation area." The Youngs' plight is complicated by strict conservation area laws, but shows how complex planning laws can confound anyone.

Building a new house is subject to even more complications, including a council's development plan. It is simplest to buy a piece of land which already has outline consent and apply for detailed approval when plans are drawn up.

Work should never be started on any project without written planning permission, or enforcement notices can empower planning officers to bulldoze a new building — and bill the owner for demolition. Anyone who thinks they can get away with changing their plans after approval are taking a big risk.

A new £500,000 eight-bedroomed house was demolished and the site grassed over at Allensford, near Consett, Co Durham, when Tynedale council learnt it was twice the size of the approved plans for a stone cottage and built 47 yards from the agreed site. The destruction ended a six-year planning wrangle.

People may regard the system with trepidation, but getting a planning decision takes less time than most think. In England, applications peaked at 623,000 during the 1988-89 property boom, compared with about 450,000 now. In 1988-89 only 43 per cent of decisions were made within eight weeks compared with 65 per cent last year. About 85 per cent of applications are granted.

Most planning departments at local council offices give initial advice over the telephone; they will know if your property is listed, if it is in one of the 8,000 conservation areas, and guide you through the maze of rules.

Since 1992, councils have been obliged to advertise applications in the local press, by a notice on site, or by writing to neighbours, allowing objectors to give their views. A planning officer will visit the site, discuss the proposal, and may suggest changes to help it comply with planning policy. If no decision is made by the council within eight weeks of the date of application, the applicant can appeal to the Department of the Environment which may appoint an inspector to decide the appeal. When permission is granted it is valid for five years.

If permission is refused, the applicant can appeal to the environment secretary within six months of the decision notice. The case will be dealt with by a planning inspector. Although it costs nothing to appeal, advice from a planning consultant can be expensive, and the process takes between four and six months.

Christopher Shepley, the chief planning inspector for England and Wales, says about a third of appeals are successful. His 320 inspectors deal with 4,500 appeals a year, 80 per cent in writing, the rest by informal hearings or public inquiries. Objectors can also appeal against a planning decision; if something is built without consent, people have four years in which to object.

"The most common problems are building without consent, not sticking to the plans and change of use — such as starting a car repair business from home without approval," Mr Shepley says.

Planning consent is separate from building regulation approval which is concerned purely with the building technicalities and safety of what you propose — a council's building control department will confirm if an application is necessary. Confusingly, some councils run the two departments from the same base.

David Meadowcroft, a travel agent, tangled with the system when he built a two-storey bathroom and bedroom extension on to his Victorian home in Greenwich, southeast London. He had been granted planning permission four years before, but he asked to change the plan slightly.

The council verbally gave the go-ahead. But when the roof was being tiled, a neighbour objected because the extension differed from the original plan. It was only then that the Meadowcrofts learnt the building control department had approved the changes, not the planning department.

"They'd checked our work every day but we did not realise they were building regulations people because they worked in the same department as planning," Mr Meadowcroft says.

"It was a two-year nightmare. We were told to knock down the extension, but by this time we had spent all our money and could not afford the £2,000 it would cost."

The family was rescued by the charity, Planning Aid for London (PAL) which gives free advice and help with an application or an objection. PAL provided a volunteer, Philip Ware, to help the Meadowcrofts successfully appeal. (For regional branches contact local offices of the Royal Town Planning Institute.)

Try to win your neighbours' approval by showing them plans before applying for permission. Their objection could sway the planning authority into refusing an application, although the decision will be based on the merits — or otherwise — of your case.

CHRISTINE WEBB

Stick to the planning rulebook

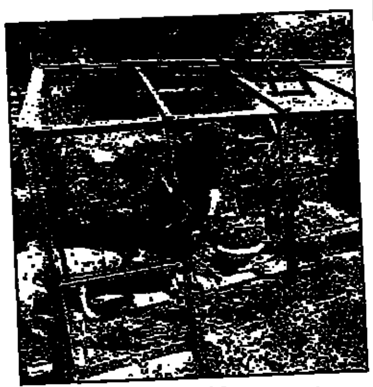
IF YOU are thinking of making a planning application, remember:

- ☐ Most authorities produce planning guidance notes or a handbook.
- ☐ Observe the guidance given and, if you are not sure, ask.
- ☐ Check whether your house is listed, in a conservation area, if your lease prohibits certain works, or extra restrictions under Article 4 or Article 5 Directions apply, which can remove some or all permitted development rights.
- ☐ Make a scale drawing of the existing building and site on graph paper to help the authority decide in principle if permission is needed.
- ☐ Check with the council's building control department.
- ☐ Consult your neighbours.
- ☐ Put all your dealings with the planning department in writing; confirm any verbal approval by letter.
- ☐ If you need planning consent, you must fill in a form, pay a fee (about £70 for an extension, £140 for a new house), and support the application with drawings that show clearly what you intend to do. For small projects, these need not come from an architect, whose fees can swallow up to 16 per cent of the total budget. A building surveyor will often do production drawings much more cheaply.

Useful reading: *Planning for Householders*, an excellent handbook, is available from Planning Aid For London (0171-613 4435), £5, including p&p.

Planning, A Guide For Householders, available free from the Department of the Environment, PO Box 151, London E15 2HF, and The Welsh Office, Cathays Park, Cardiff CF1 3NQ.

Home Improvements, a general guide, is available free from the Office Of Fair Trading, PO Box 2, Central Way, Feltham, Middlesex TW14 0TG.


Mr and Mrs Young are reapplying for permission to keep their greenhouse

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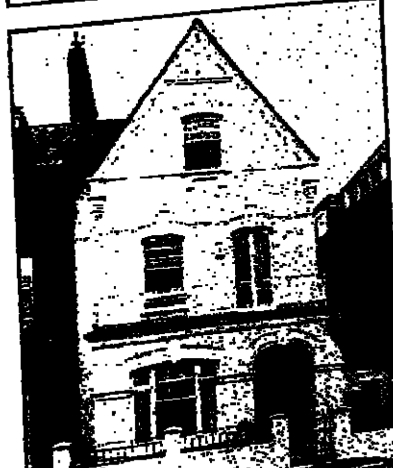
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SPAIN: Madrid has an impressive array of galleries to tempt the art lover ...

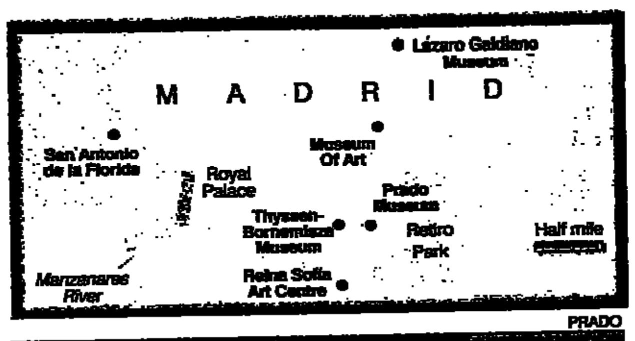
A masterpiece at every turn

MORE than nine million Britons will visit Spain this year, with at least 75 per cent of them heading for the beaches and resorts of Europe's favourite sunshine playground, *writes Harvey Elliott*.

There has been a 20 per cent increase in bookings for self-catering apartments and villas in the mountains of northern Spain. The Costa Blanca and the Costa del Sol are also well up on last year, but it appears to be at the expense of some of the more traditional resorts, such as Majorca and Minorca where bookings have fallen by as much as 10 per cent on this time last year.

Majorca is still the most important destination for holidaymakers from all parts of Britain, accounting for 19 per cent of Scottish tourists but only 10 per cent of those from the southeast.

The Spanish authorities are anxious to play down worries over a shortage of water, especially in Andalusia, which, they say, does not affect tourist hotels.



PRADO

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Above: *Dream Caused by the Flight of a Bee Around a Pomegranate One Second Before Waking up* by Salvador Dali, one of the 800 paintings that make up the Thyssen-Bornemisza Collection in Madrid

Left: Velázquez's masterpiece, *La Fragua de Vulcano*, is on display at the Prado, built in the late 18th century

Fancy a single ticket that gets you into three world-class museums? All within seven minutes' walk of one another? All on Madrid's newly dubbed Paseo del Arte, the Avenue of the Arts?

The new ticket is no big deal financially, saving only a pound or two, but the offer has symbolic meaning.

It's saying that Spain's identity lies just as much in its art as in its crowded Costas — the Spanish interior has cultural glories in abundance. You can say it with paintings — you can say it with cities, landscape, architecture, too. It's definitely a message worth the hearing.

As for Madrid and its great museum-galleries, bits have been on the map for quite a while now, as many visitors know well.

First came the Prado — opened in 1817 — with its focus on the Spanish masters, and its eloquent account of art in Spain's European empire. This is the established classic.

It gives us Velázquez and Goya on the one hand, Hieronymus Bosch and Titian on the other, along with scores of painters almost equally well-known, from the Low Countries to Naples, with Madrid and the Spanish court as the permanent centre of gravity.

But that is just the start. In the past ten years, two more major galleries have emerged in Madrid, both within easy walking distance of the Prado, both with claims to a world ranking.

The first, dating from 1986 with a relaunch in 1990, is the Reina Sofia Arts Centre. Housed in a grand 18th-century hospital, complete with ample patio and glass lifts buzzing up and down outside, it offers pride of place to Picasso's *Guernica* (moved from the Prado, which hadn't had the famous painting for long and much regretted its removal).

Guernica is supported at the Reina Sofia by a collection of even greater relevance than the older Spanish masters — Spanish painting and sculpture of the 20th century.

This means not just Dali and Picasso, but Julio Gonzalez and Juan Gris, for instance, with Miró and Tapies and works by the magnificent Basque sculptor, Eduardo Chillida. There are plenty of works by younger artists, too. It's a collection which is moving and diverting, full of wonderful surprises.

Five years ago it was possible to argue that Madrid had only a great big hole where other people and cities put their Italian primitives and Russian constructivists. This hole was filled, indeed became an international art mountain, when the Thyssen-Bornemisza Collection, perhaps the finest private assemblage of paintings anywhere in the world, was first displayed in Madrid, in 1992, in a cleverly converted palace almost opposite the entrance to the Prado.

Baron Thyssen promised that Madrid would have the paintings for nine years; but in 1993 he agreed to let Spain buy the lot for $338 million.

The Baron's paintings amount to an art history told in masterpieces, from medieval to modern, from Europe to America and Russia. Lichtenstein is there and so is the Bruges master Petrus Christus, who worked five centuries earlier. Zurbarán and Mondrian, Tiepolo and Caravaggio, German expressionists, contemporary realists ... 800 pictures to hold you for as long as you can give.

It seems to me, as a frequent visitor to all these galleries, a fine idea to consider them as one, as the new ticket implies, with the Reina Sofia to supplement the Prado and the Thyssen-Bornemisza to supplement them both, making the spectacular Madrid collections not only international but inter-continental.

That does not mean one should forget the other treats of artistic Madrid — San Antonio de la Florida, for example, the sweet little church down by the River Manzanares decorated throughout by Goya and later his burial place; or the rich collections of the Royal Academy of San Fernando (plenty of good Goyas here, as well); or the lesser known but rewarding Lázaro Galdiano museum, one to put on any European list of the unexpected.

Negro Dancer by Pablo Picasso can be seen at the Thyssen-Bornemisza Collection

But all these, excellent as they are, are widely scattered throughout the city. The advantage of the Paseo del Arte is that it is all together in one of the most open and pleasing parts of the city centre.

The Prado itself was originally an Enlightenment enterprise, built in the late 18th century to be a museum of natural history.

The name Prado means "meadow", and it was in a meadow that the building was actually sited, between the city and a now-vanished royal palace on the slope behind. The Duke of Wellington, arriving as victor in the Peninsular War, would take his evening carriage ride along the Prado road, enjoying the country air, together with half of fashionable Madrid.

Some of that atmosphere still lives on, with lawns and trees surviving even the speeding traffic of the 1990s. Next door to the Prado is the quiet retreat of the Botanical Gardens, also a product of the Enlightenment.

Those two brilliant new museums — Reina Sofia and the Thyssen-Bornemisza — may likewise be considered as important parts of a 20th-century Enlightenment, the symbols of a re-emerging, post-Franco Spain, so a single ticket to them all is an excellent idea.

ADAM HOPKINS

- *The three-museum ticket or abono, available on entry at each of the museums, costs 1,050 ptas (about £5.60). This represents a 25 per cent discount on the individual entrance fees.*
- *Companies organising art tours and inland travel in Spain include: Martin Randall Travel (0181-742 3355); Kirker Europe (0171-231 3333); Magic of Spain (0181-748 4999); Mundi Color (0171-828 6021). A three-night art tour of Madrid with Martin Randall Travel, for example, costs from £540, including flights and half-board.*
- *Further information: Spanish National Tourist Office, 57 St James's St, London SW1A 1LD (0171-499 0901).*

☐ Sunrider Holidays (01928 576471) has 10 per cent savings on self-catering tent, mobile home and apartment holidays in Spain and the south of France throughout 1995 when there are no children included in the party. Four adults renting an apartment in Estartit for 17 days in July will pay £1,026 instead of £1,140.

☐ Explore Worldwide (01252 319448) has 15-day accompanied cultural tours of Andalucia, travelling by coach and train to Granada, Cordoba, Seville and Ronda, for £549, including flights from Gatwick or Heathrow, B&B accommodation, transport and guide.

☐ Waymark (01753 516477) has introduced walking holidays based at Bubion near Granada, staying at three-star traditional-style hotels. Starting from £385 for seven nights half-board, including flights from Gatwick and the services of a walk leader.

☐ Sunflower Books (01392 243002) has published a guide to Ibiza and Formentera that includes ideas for car tours, walks and cycle rides as an alternative to the beach, price £8.99.

CHRISTINE WHEELER

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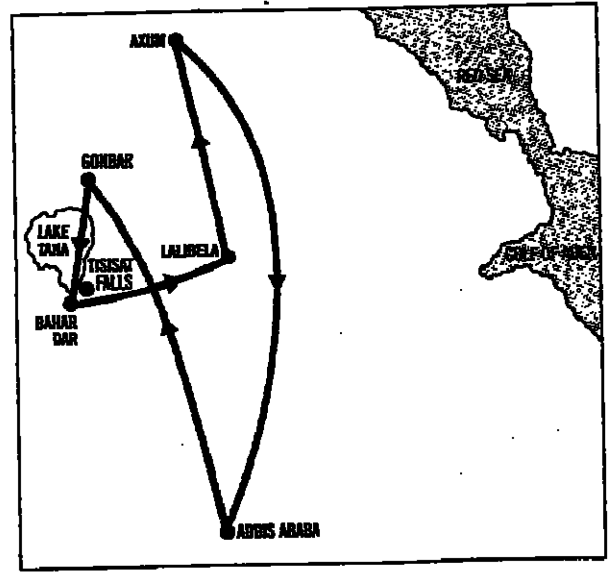

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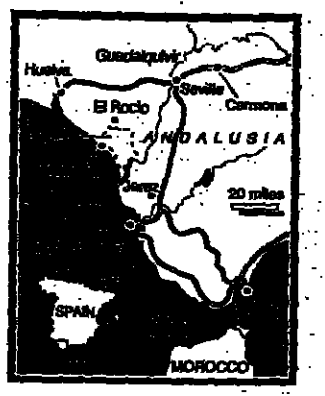
… while Andalusia is renowned for its tranquil splendour, and Barcelona for its exotic and surreal appeal

Seduced by the siesta

It took courage to exchange the azure London skies for the drizzle of Andalusia, but I was glad I persevered. The spring rains, which ceased the evening of my arrival, had spurred the local flora into action, and roadside verges and ditches had exploded into a pointillist colour-burst while, in Seville, the jacaranda trees were blooming in cool blue.



I was staying at the Hacienda de San Rafael, a converted farmhouse with spacious rooms arranged around a cobbled patio. Surrounded by fields of sunflowers, wheat, sugar beet, and cotton, the tranquillity of the Hacienda was in welcome contrast to the clamour of most Spanish towns. This was the perfect location from which to start my exploration of Andalusia.

A long infatuation with sherry drew me first to Jerez, a half-hour's drive from San Rafael. Although the city can't compete in architectural splendour with Seville or Granada, those cities can't provide sherry bodegas. Great white hangars from the outside, their interiors enclose pyramids of sherry butts in immense rows. Stepping from the sun-blasted patio into the cool of a bodega brings an assault on the senses, with the strongest imprint made by the wonderful aroma of oak, wine, yeasts and sand, moistened each morning to keep the wood supple. Many bodegas, situated on the outskirts of the town, are open to visitors, and provide a guided tour and a chilled glass or two of the superb *fino*.

> ‘It is vital to take it easy’

Central Jerez is a maze of shopping streets and charming squares, a tangle of iron and stucco ranged against unremitting whitewash. Your nose will lead you to the main market, with its stalls of squid, crab and swordfish. Close by are the *churros* stands, where twists of batter are deep fried, then thrust into paper cones and sprinkled with sugar. They taste delicious.

Jerez is also home to an equestrian arts school and to the Flamenco Foundation, housed in a charming palace where serious students come to perfect their art.

West of Jerez, the broad Guadalquivir river, flowing down from Seville, separates fertile farmland from the unproductive Doñana, an expanse of dunes, wetlands and pine woods stretching for miles along the Atlantic coast to the resort of Matalascanas. The Doñana is a nature reserve, celebrated as a breeding ground for migratory birds.

The main access to the reserve is by Land Rover from one of the reception centres just outside the Doñana. The drawback is that you must usually book at least two months in advance.

My own venture into the reserve was a disappointment, probably reflecting my personal preference for a long lunch spent scanning the horizon with binoculars.

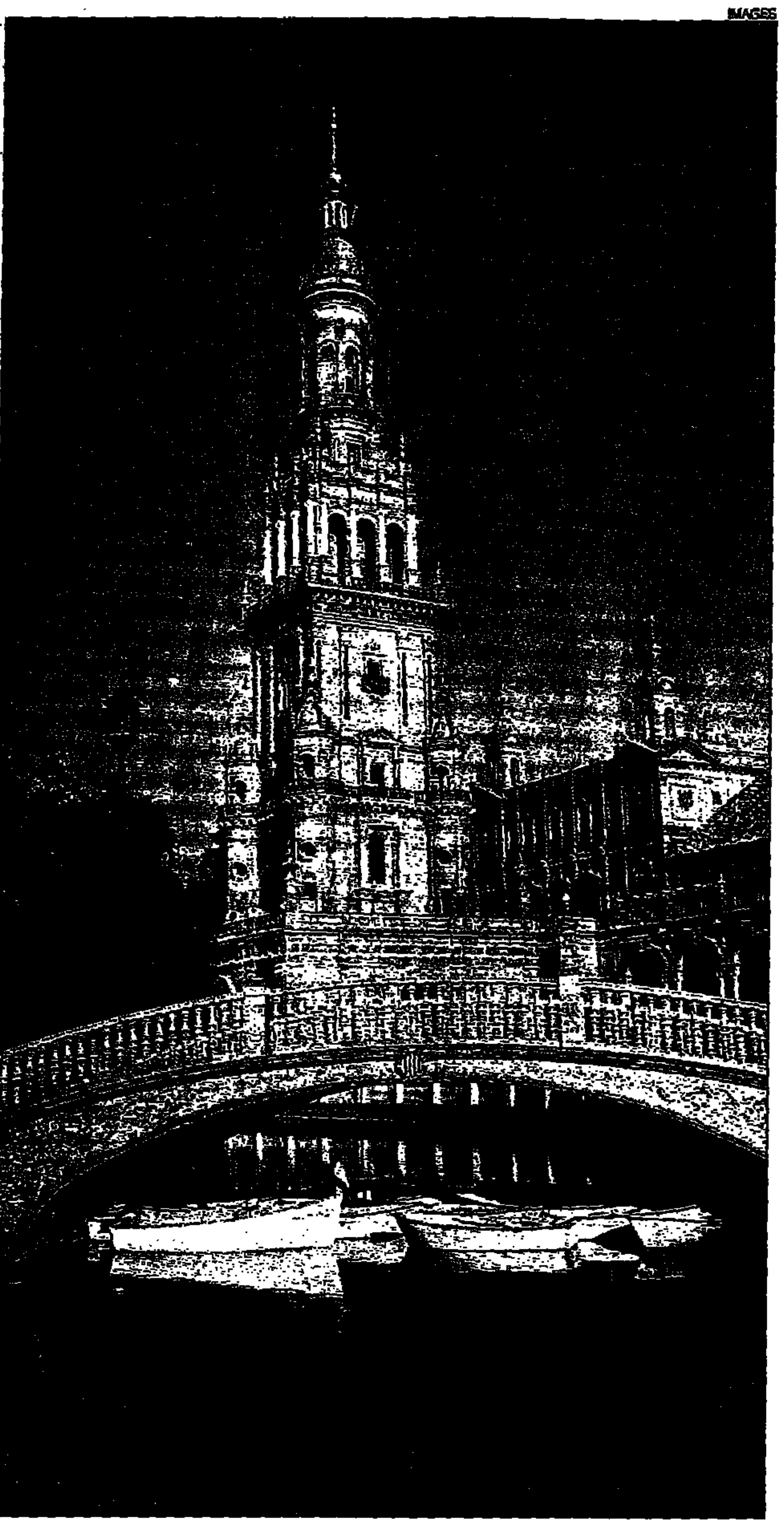
There was a wonderful spot where sweeping dunes were trying to bury a pine forest beneath their measured advance, and it was exhilarating to be driven at breakneck speeds along broad empty beaches.

But drought had desiccated the wetlands, and the famous wildlife, other than a few deer and grazing pigs, were enjoying their siesta. Someone spotted a yellow bird, but by the time I grabbed the binoculars it had, as birds are wont to do, flown off. The high point of the outing was getting stuck in the dunes and cheering on our guides as they took to their shovels to free the wheels.

As soon as we left the park the birds showed up. At the village of El Rocio, we lunched on the edge of a lagoon thick with flamingos. Rarely taken before 3pm, lunch in these coastal villages was always worth the wait. Bowls of pink prawns and tiny *coquinas*, the sweet baby clams I saw being dug up on the beaches, were followed by platters of fried fish and squid, washed down with a few glasses of chilled Manzanilla.

It is one of the charms of Andalusia that its inhabitants never seem to work.

IMAGES



The imposing tower of the Palacio Español in Seville, in the Andalusian heartland

"We come to our offices at nine and look at the letters. At 10.30, we go out for breakfast. At noon, we nip out for a *copita* or a beer. At 2.30, it's time for lunch and a siesta." My informant concluded, irrefutably, "We don't have any stress in Andalusia."

Even in Seville, 20 miles north of San Rafael, there is little urban bustle. At noon one day, I recuperated from the languid ardours of visiting the Mudéjar pleasure palace of the Alcázar with a plate of exquisite ham at Casa Roman, only to find half the town in there doing the same thing. There is much to see in Seville, and even more to enjoy. Innumerable bars, flower-enclosed patio restaurants and lush parks testify to the overpowering importance for the Spanish of taking it easy.

Just north of Seville, in the lovely old town of Carmona, I encountered a nun who communicated with visitors through a double grille, through which we exchanged banknotes for sweetmeats, made by the inmates. She had been incarcerated in the closed convent with seven other nuns for the past 45 years. Since the most junior nun was now 60 years old, it is probable that this closed order will soon be closed for good.

Useful connections established by the owners of the Hacienda gave us entry to two private palaces in Carmona, inhabited invisibly by elderly ladies and governed by awesome housekeepers, who showed us round.

Judging by the decor and furnishings, their overriding values were religion and floor wax.

"Downstairs," said the housekeepers, "is for summer. Upstairs for winter." Hence, two sets of kitchens, bathrooms, dining rooms, and bedrooms. Curtains of carefully tended creepers descended from the patio arches, keeping the living areas cool even in the most punishing heat of the summer months.

I squandered the rest of the evening in another palace, the Casa de Carmona, brilliantly converted into a luxury hotel. The most sumptuous furnishings coexisted with modern pastel-coloured walls — those overlooking the huge patio glowed salmon pink. The arcaded stables now serve as the restaurant, where I happily tucked into stuffed turbot, washed down with the finest old Rioja.

An hour later I was back at the Hacienda, and was soon contentedly asleep in a land fit for hedonists.

STEPHEN BROOK

● *The author was a guest of Kirker Holidays (0171-231-3333) which offers a package of three nights' half-board at the Hacienda de San Rafael, including flights and car hire, for £535 per person. From July 1 to 15 a supplement of £35 applies, and of £49 between July 15 and September 12.*

● *Iberia Airlines (0171-830-0011) economy flights from Heathrow to Seville range from £165 to £250 until late October, depending on date of travel. Rates at the Hacienda de San Rafael are £90 per person half-board and £65 for B&B. Reservations through TRI Hotel Marketing (0181-563 2100).*

Hand in hand through the city of unreality

The third *crema catalana* had a crust like a sheet of burnt glass. At the first touch of the spoon it splintered, and there, beneath the shards, lay the cool, yellow custard without which no Catalan considers lunch to be complete. "Go on," it winked at me. "Spoil yourself." And I did.

The first two *catalanas* had seemed like contenders, but the third took the gold. And if three Olympic-class meals in two days seem excessive, please remember that this was duty. My wife's birthday was in round numbers, so I had whisked her away for a weekend, to remind her that parents can still be partners.

Time in such a situation is precious. Barcelona, less than two hours by plane, offered warmth and exoticism, a plethora of extraordinary buildings, some good galleries and a feast of restaurants. As we left there was snow on the Chilterns; as we arrived there were ripe oranges on the trees.

Outside the hotel, birdsong filled the street. We were a step away from the Ramblas, Barcelona's answer to both the Champs Elysées and Pigalle. Lined with extravagantly stuccoed mansions, the Ramblas are a parade of living canvases in primary colours: caged birds, flower sellers, the football club's many fans, street artists, human sculptures in extravagant poses, pickpockets, flea-marketeers and young couples in love.

Even in early March, the avenue was full of people hand in hand or locked in embrace. We walked with them to the point where the cobblestones were painted by Miró — a red, blue and white circular bird. Then, diving to the left, we were quickly engulfed by the Barri Gòtic, the medieval centre of the city, a warren of dusty alleys and squares — washing on every balcony, a bar at every corner.

On this late Friday afternoon, amplified guitarists were flamencoing, political slogans were drying in new cement, cobblers were tapping, café-owners were setting out chairs and shopkeepers were displaying leather, jewellery and arcane religious statuary. In the cathedral, by the light of a thousand red candles, women queued to stroke the feet of Christ.

"This is unreal," my wife said later, as we tucked into salt cod and spinach, angler fish and eel. And indeed Barcelona is Unreality City — home of Gaudi, the eccentric designer whose quirky genius shines from his unfinished symphony, the Sagrada Familia church, and from the shaded paths of the Güell Park. Home, too, of the founder of cubism, whose astonishing talent as a teenager still amazes visitors to Barcelona's Picasso Museum.

These, and much more, we saw in two days, yet we did not feel like packaged tourists — more like people who appreciated that a well-spent weekend *á deux* can sometimes seem like a week.

PETER BROWN

● *The author was a guest of A. T. Mays City Breaks (0141-951 8411). Two nights at Le Meridien hotel, with return flights on Iberia from Heathrow, cost from £294 per person.*

STEPHEN MARKESON

Flower seller in the Ramblas, the heart of Barcelona

Inside out with style

FINDING a 50ft goldfish outside your hotel window should not come as a surprise in Barcelona, *writes Marianne Darch*. Surreal sculptures litter the avenues of this stylish Spanish city.

With the Catalans' long history of radical design and architecture, it seems only natural that one of the city's newest five-star hotels, the Hotel Arts, should break with convention. Opened in 1992, just before the Olympic Games, the 44-storey hotel towers above the Parc de Mar and enjoys superb views of the Mediterranean. The exposed metal girders encasing the blue glass tower seem to turn the building inside out.

Inside, the creative flavour is maintained with paintings and sculptures by native artists, including Rafols-Casamada, Vilaplana, Rasero and Bennassar, dotted around the hotel's halls and walls.

Of its four restaurants, the Newport Room is notable for its unusual mix of Mediterranean and Californian seafood, a match for the city's flamboyance.

● *The author was a guest of Elegant Resorts of Europe, 24 Nicholas Street, Chester CH1 2ER (01244 350461). Three nights at the Hotel Arts, including breakfast, private car transfers and return flight with British Airways, cost from £495 per person.*

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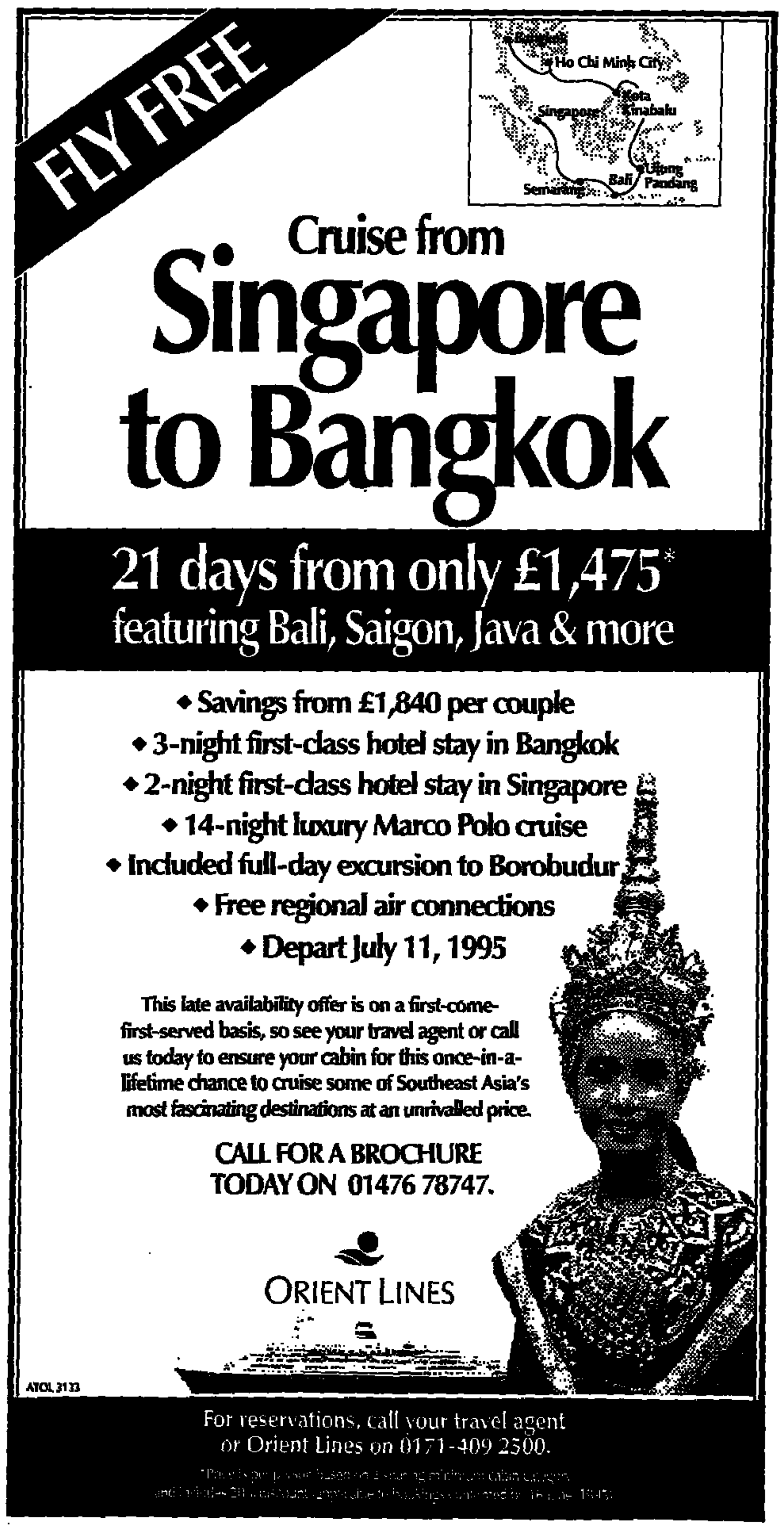
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MEDITERRANEAN CRUISE: **Sally Emerson** and her son go in search of ancient wisdom

All aboard for the sail of the centuries

What I couldn't get over, never having been on a proper cruise before, was the way the boat moved so far while we slept. One day we were in Egypt and the next day we woke up in Israel. We slept and — hey presto — we docked in Cyprus. Another nap and there was Crete. A leisurely breakfast the next day and Sicily turned up. The idea that you could actually lie in a bed, in your own comfortable cabin, and move to your next destination seemed quite impossible, and at any moment I expected someone to shake me and ask if I wanted a boiled sweet or some duty free.

The only cruises I'd taken before were interesting ordeals — one a rough QE2 cruise with a seasick companion, the other a Caribbean cruise on a Disney boat where you kept bumping into Chip and Dale or Bugs Bunny which, if you were feeling queasy, made you feel worse.

On an 11-day Easter cruise we visited Genoa, Naples (Pompeii), Egypt (Alexandria, the pyramids at Giza and the Cairo museum), Cyprus (Curium), Crete (Knossos and the Iráklion museum), Sicily (the Valley of the Temples) and Salerno in Italy (Paestum).

I was doubtful whether I would like the cruise, going along nobly with my seven-year-old son to educate him in the history of Mediterranean cultures and religion. It was hard on him sometimes, having his mother along. He wasn't, for instance, allowed to kiss the stone in Bethlehem where Jesus was supposed to have been born ("There'll be germs," I said. "Imagine all the people who've kissed that"), but on the whole the cruise was a spectacular success.

It was an Italian cruise, on the Grimaldi line, and the food was copious and divine. Italians are good at living it up and every other night there seemed to be a gala dinner … lobster, caviar, vodka, welcome dinners, Easter banquets, Easter parades, Greek feasts. People kept having birthdays, as though this, too, was part of a general conviviality. By the end of the cruise we had sung *Happy Birthday* so many times and clapped as splendid cakes were cut we felt rather Scroogish not to have had a birthday ourselves.

Being Italian, the waiters approached my son with an air of priestly beatitude as they spooned mountains of pasta on to his plate as if performing some important religious ritual. "Would you care for pistachio ice-cream tonight — and maybe a little *gianduia* cake, Mike?" they would ask, and would nod solemnly when he beamed "Si" to them.

The high point was the first stop after Pompeii, Egypt, reached after two days on board. At the moment attacks on tourists mean that it's not an ideal destination for the adventurous solo traveller. Our gargantuan group — some 550 — set off in coaches from Alexandria, where we disembarked, to Giza with a police escort. We saw a dead horse in the street and watched a policeman shove his fist into a man's jaw with a resounding crack.

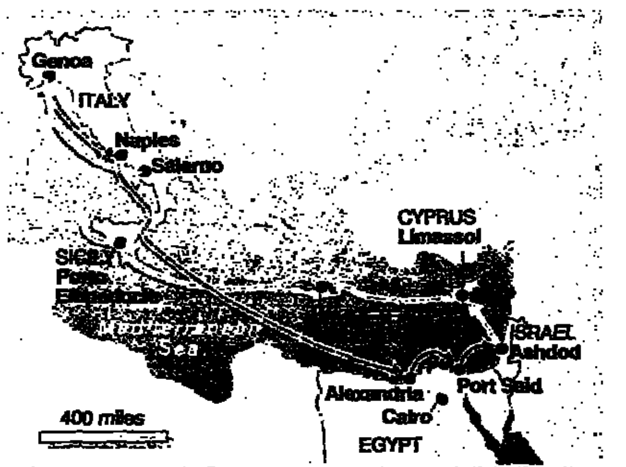
At the pyramids, Beduin selling trinkets popped up wherever we went. An Arab headdress was put on my son's head and he was hoisted, delighted, up on to a camel and swept off towards some deserted sand dunes; something I could have done without. In the Great Pyramid we had to crouch down to walk in the pitch dark through a long, terrifying tunnel into the burial chamber at the centre. Nothing in Disney could beat this.

Cairo museum was overwhelming, a magical experience, but we lost time making unscheduled visits to the gentlemen's (which apparently had distinctly BC lavatories), and had to race through disapproving figures of other mothers as we looked for our group. The visit there and to the pyramids was too short. Our group, with an English-speaking guide (there were adequate local English-speaking guides wherever we went), spent more than an hour in an overpriced gift shop, but passed quickly by mysterious jackal-headed gods, delicately magnificent tombs of gold, the bracelets and rings which had been stuffed between the folds of Tutankhamen's mummy, and the figurines of the 365 servants ready to wait on Tutankhamen in the next world.

WORLD PICTURES

One of the high points of the cruise is a visit to the magnificent pyramids at Giza, where Beduin riding camels ply their wares to tourists

Ancient Knossos in Crete



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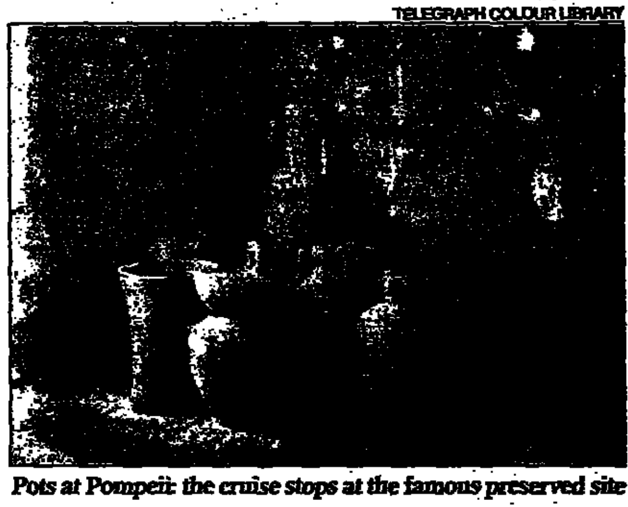

Pots at Pompeii: the cruise stops at the famous preserved site

The abiding theme of the visit was religion; and the idea of a future life into which you take your possessions or a civilisation dominated by a roaring bull, such as that at Knossos, is easy for a child to appreciate. However, my son was rather concerned about where his religion, Anglican, stood — was it the right one? In Jerusalem we saw where Jesus was supposed to have put his head to rest on the way to the crucifixion, but just as he was approaching it he was shoved savagely aside by some fervent females in black who stroked the stone with unkempt passion.

At the Wailing Wall he observed me being nearly sent into the next world by a group of Israeli soldiers when I tossed a lollipop stick into the dustbin behind them. Three guns pointed at me.

They were going to shoot. "Who are those soldiers?" he asked. "Everyone has decided that Jerusalem is their Holy City — but especially the Arabs and the Jews. They both want it. It causes problems. They thought your lollipop stick might be a bomb."

In general, his contact with religions has rather dampened his enthusiasm, although we read a children's version of the Old Testament before going to Jerusalem and he loved every story. And, of course, this was what the cruise was about, old stories, and their physical remains.

In the few moments of boredom on the trips, there were always bits of old stone to climb over, this being a central feature of ruins and of little boys' lives. Sicily's Valley of the Temples was a particular success in this respect only. However, he's been there, he's seen huge temples rise up against the sky, and picked almonds from the trees the ancient Greeks must have known.

Nowhere on the various visits was there anyone to tell him not to touch, or climb or clamber. Most people spoke Italian (there were also Germans, French, and a few Danes, Dutch and Spanish), with only a very few speaking English. As one of the problems of cruises is generally considered to be the other people on them, being the only English people was liberating. We didn't understand what the Italians were saying. We didn't know their class, their jobs, their opinions. We just had to smile pleasantly in my case (and not have to join in any of the innumerable merry activities), and organise football games with emotionally unguarded Italian boys in my son's case, thus learning on the trip about national stereotyping as well as the date of the pyramids. During games of football and hide and seek in the wonderful deserted ship's cinema and the discotheque he acquired a few words of Italian, chiefly numbers, helpful in counting in hide and seek and for scoring in football. *Cache-cache* (hide and seek) with some French boys was the best game of all when played in the empty cinema, hiding behind seats and curtains.

We soon entered into the siesta way of life and stayed up for midnight buffets.

But, above all, we'll both remember walking, or in his case running, on deck at night, watching the waves and the stars and the movement of the water swirling round the swimming pool, with nothing but the Mediterranean sea all around us … oh, and the beautiful woman from Belgium who'd come on the cruise with her elderly father but without her husband.

She had quite a different experience of the trip and the deck, beginning with an Evelyn Waugh sense of panic and isolation and ending with a romance with an Italian teacher who wore a shiny tracksuit but was eloquent about the stars.

Stone embellishment from a Pompeii house

Fact file

☐ Prices for the Easter cruise ranged from £1,005 to £2,290 per person, including all meals and flights to Naples or Genoa, the two starting points. Other shorter cruises on the *Ausonia* include the "Mediterranean Pearls" to Spain, Tunisia and Italy, with prices ranging from £715 to £1,259. Children up to 18 years can travel for £170, in a third or fourth berth in most categories except the very cheapest. There is a club for children which operates all day until late at night except at siesta time, but little English is spoken. Similarly, lectures on the sights to be seen are not given in English.

☐ Further details from Fred Olsen Travel Ltd, Fred Olsen House, White House Road, Ipswich, Suffolk IP1 5LL (01473 232929).

[redacted]

Answers from page 25

HAGGADAY

(a) A kind of door-latch in Yorkshire and north Lincolnshire dialect. "A haggaday is frequently put upon a cottage door, on the inside, without anything projecting outwards by which it may be lifted. A little slit is made in the door, and the latch can only be raised by inserting therein a nail or slip of metal."

HEALME

(c) A kind of cherry, from the obsolete French *heaulme* a helmet, so "the Helmet cherrie, Heart-cherrie, French cherrie". "Ye may well begin to graffe at Christmas, and principally the healme or great Cherrie."

HERNIARY

(a) Of or pertaining to hernia or its surgical treatment, from the Latin *hernia* a rupture. "Herniary protrusion and adhesion of the iris are prevented by dilation of the pupil."

JAGHIRE

(c) An assignment of the king's or government's share of the produce of a district to a person or body of persons, as an annuity, either for private use or for the maintenance of a public (especially a military) establishment; also, the district so assigned, or the income derived from it. From the Urdu *jāgīr* holding or holder.

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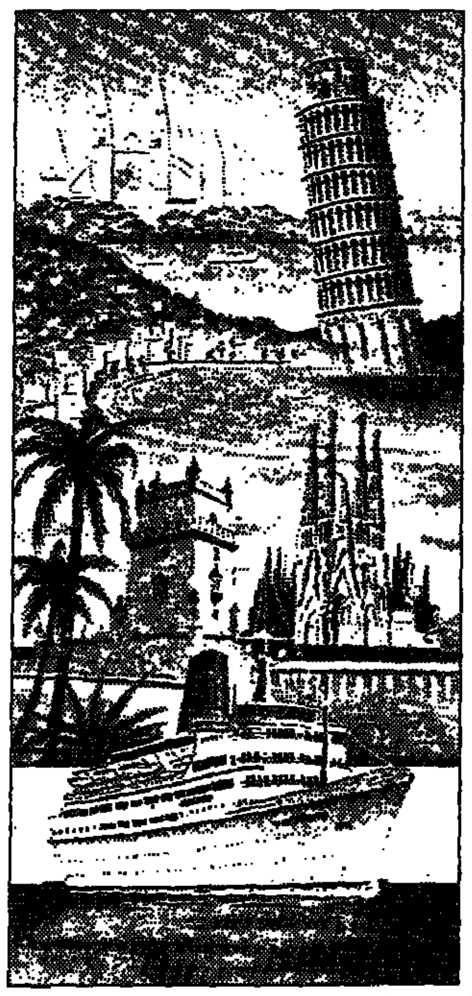

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NORWAY: On the southern coast is a land of fine food and artistic tradition waiting to be explored

Reaping the riches of a summer sea

There's more to Norway for the traveller than the midnight sun and the fiords. Consider the southern coast, facing out across the Skagerrak to Sweden and Denmark. The Norwegians call this area Sørlandet. It is unlike any other part of the country, and deserves to be as well-known to us as it was to our Victorian forebears. Why leave such an attractive place to the Dutch and the Germans?

Sørlandet runs south and westward round the southern tip of the country (there is a signpost saying "North Cape 2,518 kilometres") and continues up the coast towards Stavanger.

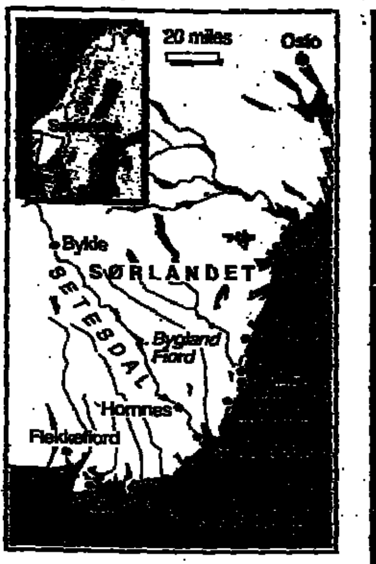
This is Norway's sun coast. It enjoys the warming waters of the Gulf Stream and for three months in summer the temperatures here are as high as anywhere north of the Alps; gardens explode into life with displays of sweet peas, elder, roses and hollyhocks.

This is where the Norwegian windjammers once dropped anchor. Much of the coast is protected by a labyrinth of islands; the sailing is incomparable and there are many boat trips to be made among the skerries. The sea fishing is good and, at some camp sites, there are facilities to smoke your catch.

The beaches are long and clean and even the smooth, pink-tinged rocks are comfortable to lie on. Sometimes, on the hottest days, jellyfish — mainly Portuguese men-of-war — can be a nuisance; by night, as the temperature drops, the water often appears phosphorescent. As summer wears on there can be sea fogs, when the lighthouse at Homborsund booms out a warning.

The coast is dotted with small towns. The port at Farsund was built with money brought home by the privateers in the early 1800s. Flekkefiord, where the oldest quarter is still called Hollander Town, was the centre of the timber trade with the Netherlands.

The largest town, with a population of about 60,000, is Kristiansand, founded by Christian IV in 1641, who laid out its grid pattern of elegant streets.



The tradition of painting the houses white is said to have begun in Lillesand, further up the east coast, where the architecture shows traces of old trading connections with Britain and France. It was here, in the prosperous sea-going days, that people first started decorating the dark timbers of the old houses. The most expensive paint was white, which became a status symbol.

Sørlandet is rich in literary and artistic associations. In 1909, when Edvard Munch was commissioned to paint the murals in the great hall of Oslo University, he came to the town of Kragerø, and it is the mid-winter sun as he saw it there that is depicted in the golds and pinks and crimsons of his work.

Further down the coast is the town of Grimstad where, in the 1840s, an awkward youth named Henrik Ibsen became an apprentice apothecary. He stayed long enough to father an illegitimate child and write his first play.

Near by, in the graveyard of the old stone church at Fjaere, is a memorial to Terje Vigen, one of Norway's folk heroes. During the Napoleonic Wars, when the coast was blockaded by the British, Vigen rowed across to Denmark to fetch food, but his wife and children died of starvation in his absence. Ibsen immortalised him in a narrative poem, the recitation of which plucks at the same sort of chords as *The Wreck of the Hesperus*. The novelist Knut Hamsun was also drawn to these parts. When, in 1918, he won the Nobel Prize he used the money to buy the estate of Norholm, on the coast road south of Grimstad. After the Second World War, at the age of 86, he was accused of having Nazi sympathies, and it was in Grimstad that he was first detained.

ROBERT HARDING

Part of the waterfront at Kristiansand, capital of the Sørlandet area. The white-painted houses are a legacy of the former "status symbol" look

The attractions of the coast should not stand in the way of exploring the hinterland. Running almost due north is Setesdal, one of the most beautiful of the Norwegian valleys, and one of the most remote. It remained virtually cut off from the rest of the country until the end of the last century.

A narrow-gauge railway was opened in 1896, mainly to carry timber to Kristiansand, but it was hopelessly uneconomical and, since the 1960s, the state railway has run a bus service instead. However, a five-kilometre stretch of the line was saved by a group of Danish railway enthusiasts and, on Sunday afternoons during the summer, it is possible to travel in carriages drawn by one of the original locomotives, complete with a huge spark-arrester chimney to avoid starting forest fires.

Setesdal has its own, striking version of the national folk costume, and the traditional art of rose-painting on wood flourishes in the area. There are outcrops of minerals and semi-precious stones — beryl, amazonite and malachite — to be found, and the intricate work of the valley's silversmiths is much admired. Many of the old mines have been opened up and the area has become a haven for amateur geologists and gemologists. Marie Curie frequently took radioactive minerals from lower Setesdal for her experiments, and the museum at Fennefoss has assembled much of her laboratory equipment.

Christianity was established in the area as early as 1050. The church at Bykle, dating from the 13th century or earlier, is one of the smallest in Norway, with room for only one door. In 1826, every square inch of the interior was elaborately and exquisitely decorated by a local artist. This was done to the glory of God, but it became the cause of priestly displeasure. When the eyes of his flock wandered to the beauties of the rose painting, a later incumbent took it as a reflection on his preaching and had some of the painting obliterated.

Today, the valley offers a catholic range of leisure activities, the most improbable being at Hornnes, which has the biggest go-kart track in northern Europe. The fishing is outstanding. Permits are cheap, and the Bygland fiord (a lake, in fact, more than 500ft deep in places) offers trout, char and whiting.

Seafood lovers will be in their element here. Crayfish, crab, lobster, mussels and prawns all figure prominently on the cold table. So do salmon and trout — smoked and marinated in dill.

For meat eaters, there's venison, usually with cranberry jelly, and ptarmigan or grouse served with inventive cream sauces.

Meals tend to tail off after the satisfying main course, but those with a sense of adventure could try *gammelost*, a spectacularly evil-smelling cheese. Puddings are not a strong suit, although if you are offered *multer med krem* do not be put off by its nondescript appearance: it's made of cream and Arctic cloudberries and is not to be missed.

Many Norwegians are superb pastry cooks. Napoleon cakes filled with whipped custard cream are particularly punishing to the waistline, so are the feather-light Danish pastries introduced from Austria at the turn of the century and still called *wienerbrød*.

If Sørlandet does not correspond to most people's idea of Norway as the quintessential land of the mountain and the flood, its inhabitants also differ from conventional Norwegian stereotypes. The dialect they speak, with its softly slurred, Geordie-like "R" sounds, falls easily on the ear. They are notably friendly, have an engagingly sly sense of humour, and seem more outward-looking than many of their fellow countrymen — the mark, perhaps, of their long centuries of traffic with the world beyond the Skagerrak.

IAN McINTYRE

Fact file

☐ British Airways (01345-222111) has a World Offer fare to Oslo (£180 — Apex £215) and Stavanger (£160 — Apex £195) bookable until June 14 for travel this month but must include a Saturday night. Air UK (01345 666777) flies daily to Bergen and Stavanger from Aberdeen. Connecting services from Stansted, Norwich, Humberside and Teesside. Apex fares from £150.

☐ Package holidays are available from Norwegian State Railways (0171-930 6666) and Norway Only (01274 393480). The ferry fare from Hirtsals in Denmark to Kristiansand is £17 for cars, £14 per person.

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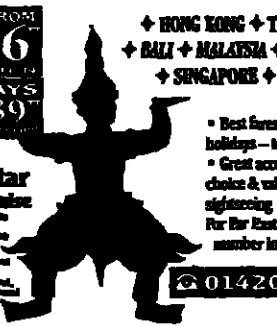

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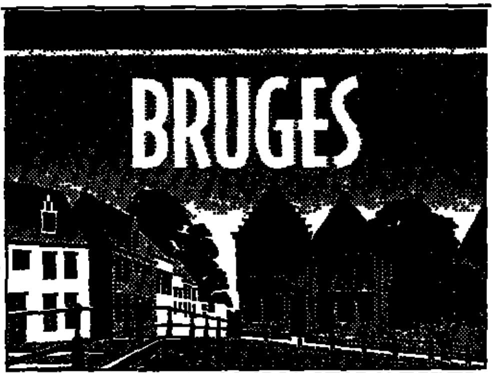

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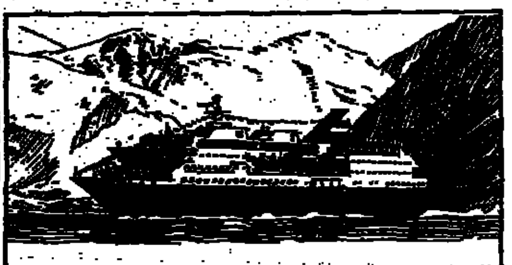

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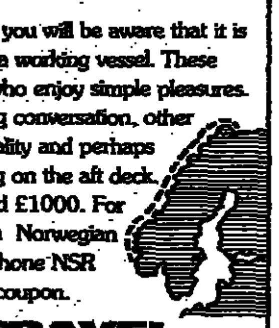

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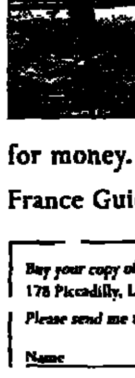

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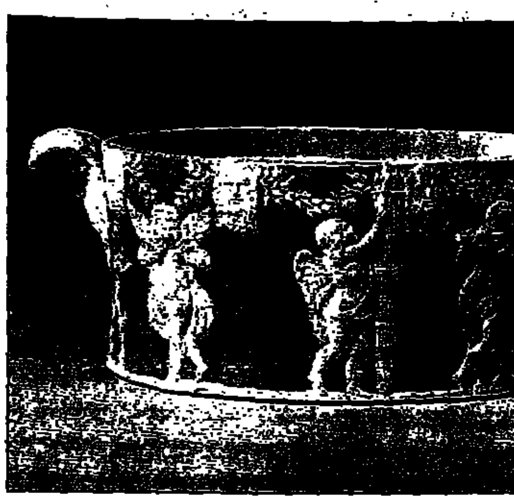
Toytown legacy of the soap king

The Lady Lever Art Gallery at Port Sunlight reopens next Friday with a major exhibition of Wedgwood's work

Port Sunlight is as clean and tidy as a pile of hankies, freshly laundered *and* ironed. And so it should be, because this is the garden village that the Victorian philanthropist and industrialist William Hesketh Lever built for the workers in his Wirral soap factory.

The Unilever factory has been modernised and is busier than ever; each year it turns out 250,000 tonnes of cleaning agents, though the only evidence of it to the casual visitor is a long low wall and a whiff of perfumed detergent.


On display: lilac jasper plant pot by Wedgwood, c. 1790

The 900 houses that make up Port Sunlight (named after Lever's best-selling, all-purpose soap) are gradually being sold off by the company on the open market. Since they were designed in small blocks by 30 different architects between 1888 and the First World War, they form a telling sample of dwellings of the day. Tudorbethan was clearly all the rage.

Port Sunlight really is a port. Lever chose the site, a seemingly useless swamp, because it had the Mersey on one side and a railway line on the other. You can step off the platform straight into the toytown-neat village, or come over (or under) the river from Liverpool.

Head for the heritage centre and pick up a copy of the *Village Trail*. This will take you past Hulme Hall, where Ringo was initiated as a Beatle, the Gladstone Theatre, opened by the eponymous PM, Christ Church, a huge pile of gothic architecture in which Lever and his family are interred, and a dinky saddle-backed bridge straddling the Dell, a string of flowerbeds that was once a tidal inlet.

Several other garden villages and cities were built by private benefactors around this time (Saltaire and Bourneville spring to mind) but Port Sunlight is the only one to retain its original boundaries. It has been deemed an Outstanding Conservation Area, boasts numerous Britain in Bloom awards, and in 1993 was runner-up in the Entente Florale, a competition to find the most beautifully landscaped village in Europe.

Looking down the village from the war memorial you can see why this view has been dubbed the Taj Mahal of Merseyside. At the end of a pair of flower-bedecked drives stands the Lady Lever Art Gallery, home to a large collection of Pre-Raphaelite paintings and 1,800 pieces of Wedgwood, and a memorial to Lady Lever, who died shortly after work began.

The gallery, built by Lever for the edification of his workers, has been closed all winter to allow the roof glass to be replaced with UV-screens and for the insulation to be improved. Edward Morris, fine art curator of *Merseyside Museums*, says: "Everything in the gallery is now much better protected and it enables us to move things around and display them where they make more sense."

Reopening is planned for next Friday, with a fanfare exhibition of the work of Josiah Wedgwood, who died 200 years ago, on display from June 24. Examples of Wedgwood artists' work will go on show for the first time in years, most of them the creations of two Italian sculptors, Camillo Pacetti and Giovanni Angelini, though one model is by John Flaxman, considered by some to be the greatest English sculptor of the time.

Wedgwood sent to Rome for copies of some of the finest ancient stone friezes, modelled in wax on thin slabs of slate. These have since become immortalised on pottery, plaques and jewellery, the most famous being a copy of the Portland Vase.

The first Viscount Leverhulme (as he became) was interested in architecture, ethnology and freemasonry, but collecting works of art — mainly 18th and 19th-century paintings, ceramics, furniture and sculpture — was his chief love.

The gallery, like the village, is a potpourri of styles. If you find Holman Hunt's *The Scapegoat* too disturbing you can turn to Rossetti's *The Blessed Damosel* or Alma-Tadema's *The Tepidarium*. It is hard to believe that this stylish and idiosyncratic collection started with Lever's search for pretty pictures with which to advertise his products. A strange stance for the man who claimed "there is no sentiment in business and no room for fads".

JENNY MCCLEAN

VISION BANK

Period pieces: the 900 houses that make up Port Sunlight were designed by 30 architects between 1888 and the First World War

Wedgwood fact file

☐ Lady Lever Art Gallery, Port Sunlight, Bebington, Wirral (0151-645 3623). For further information or for an invitation to a special viewing of the reopened gallery, call 0151-207 0001.

☐ The gallery will be open Mon-Sat, 10am-5pm, Sun 12-5pm. Free. Ⓢ

☐ An illustrated booklet on the gallery's Wedgwood collection by Robin Emmerson, Merseyside Museums' head of decorative art, has just been published at £2.95, and will shortly be available from the gallery or by mail order (p&p extra).

☐ The story of Lever's life will be told in a new permanent exhibition currently being set up at the Lady Lever Art Gallery, due to open in March 1996.

☐ Other Wedgwood exhibitions include: Wedgwood Museum, Barlaston, Stoke-on-Trent (01782 204141). Mon-Fri 9am-5pm, Sat 10am-4pm, Sun (Easter to October only) 10am-4pm. Anniversary exhibition and events from June 18 until October 1. Factory tours include a reconstruction of the Etruria workshops, Josiah's showpiece factory. There are also cameos at the Holburne Museum, Great Pulteney Street, Bath (01225 466669) until December 15.

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ABSOLUTELY Fabulous retired professional widow late 50's young looking n/s solvent WLTM man similar interested golf travel winter sunshine h/counties-Essex photo please Reply to Box No 7128

ABSOLUTELY gorgeous Anglo Indian lady of 26yrs old, wishes to meet a solvent man with a GSOH and who likes the good things in life and loves to travel. London/anywhere. Box 6973

ACADEMIC gentleman, must be tall & good looking (58-65), cultured, interested in classical music & literature, preferably public school educated, highbrow but happy & kind sought by highly intelligent, independent, very attractive blond, blue eyed, slim, successful widow (2 yrs) in Scotland (1 hr London). Photo if possible. Please Reply to Box No 7151

ACHIEVER yet tasteful, feminine, curvaceous lady, 46, 5'6", post-grad (MBA) seeks professional, outgoing, fun, caring, 48 - 55 n/s class act for Autumnal Amazon cruise and other sensual expeditions. London, South East. Please Reply to Box No 7148

A creative, affectionate & very attractive Australian lady - 36 living in East Sussex. Romantic, feminine & vivacious. Seeks caring, fun loving, well educated gentleman 36-50 to share lifes adventures, cosy weekends, exotic holidays, each others hearts & minds and the year 2000. Box No 7140

A Pretty Korean lady nurse, (28) seeks gentleman for long lasting, loving relationship. Please Reply to Box No 6961

A fabulous fair haired sparkling lady 60 & 5'7", good figure, full of friendship, laughter & mischief (solvent entrepreneur) seeks an uncomplicated adventurous male interested in music, travel, racing events, sea - country, antiques, good food, good living & caring for me. Wales/anywhere. Box No 6682

AFFECTIONATE, caring, considerate, capable, slim, attractive, shy but strong, Cambridge based 40 y.o (Life just beginning!) enjoys food and wine, gardening, entertaining, tennis, holidays. W.L.T.M. similar intelligent man of strong character with G.S.O.H. Children no problem. Photo appreciated. Please Reply to Box No 7133

AFFECTIONATE stylish leggy lady loves wine, sun, country, dogs seeks tall, slim, solvent, n/s, non-menopausal man, 40-50, for laughs, cuddles...and perhaps a future? Photo/ informative letter pls. Herts/London. Please Reply to Box No 6991

AFFECTIONATE Tall, slim, relaxed Lady. Loves life, food, wine, animals, words, Greece, sailing. Seeks warm caring man to share happy times. N/S. 40 ish. Herts. Box No 7180

AFFECTIONATE slim attractive woman 51. Interests music, theatre, countryside, home life seeks caring solvent chap. Cambs. Photo plse. Box 6820

ARE there any real men out there? Professional, active, sociable South Coast lady WLTM 30-45 year old. Photo appreciated. Box No 7091

ARE you 40-60, single, strong, sensitive, sexy, selfless, sunny & solvent? Open-minded man with above attributes could have long lasting fun, companionship & much more with full time prof. lady & mother. Wirral/ Cheshire. Life too short - let's enjoy it! Box No 6699

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ASTROLOGER with wit and wisdom seeks open minded, cerebral type over 40. Likes: Country, animals, books, music. Hates: Ball games, cold water, slumming it. Beds/ Herts/Cambs. Date, place and time of birth to Box No 7145

A TOUCH unconventional perhaps but successful & ambitious - a mature experienced man embracing the 90's. Good looking, fit, slim, n/s, decent & considerate. London & West Country. WLTM a long term lady sensibly 40ish with wit, style & striking good looks. Photo please. Box 6729

ATTRACTIVE prof. oriental lady 47 widow, tall, slim. Enjoys country walks, swimming, classical music, concerts, gardening foreign travel. Seeks prof. caring, kind English man 46 - 60's of similar status & interests plus spiritually aware. Kent, London/S.E. Surrey, Hants. Please Reply to Box No 7126

ATTRACTIVE prof lady, 37, Pub Sch ed. had the excitement, done the adventure, wants to share a future with intelligent chap. 36 - 45. Enjoys travel, politics (Con), countryside, evenings in and out. GSOH a must. London, Surrey, Hants. Please reply to Box No 6772

ATTRACTIVE stylish articulate & amusing History graduate (40) seeks well qualified professional Christian man with drive, direction, the Holy Spirit & a GSOH (38-45) n/s. Cambs. Please Reply to Box No 6826

ATTRACTIVE stylish lady no ties creative long dark hair blue eyes London based seeks thoughtful personable funloving soulmate with GSOH to enjoy the ups of life. Photo appreciated. Box No 6950

ATTRACTIVE, intelligent, charismatic widow in New York, no children, financially secure, seeks friendship with gentleman with old fashioned values of 60 years or over. Tel 001 212-982-9469.

ATTRACTIVE witty stylish professional female, 31, n/s seeks intelligent, warm, Doctor or similar professional. GSOH. Bucks/London. No emotional wrecks. Pic please. Box 6858

ATTRACTIVE, tall, slim, n/s blonde. Early 40's, positive, intelligent, sporty, seeks compatible gentleman, 40-55. Surrey. Please write with photo to Box No 7008

A very pretty actress on her way up. Good background & education, feminine, home-loving & interesting, seeks well connected attractive man of substance 58-60 who can take her to all the right places, see her through the season & maybe beyond. Photo-phone Please Reply to Box No 6952

BEAUTIFUL blue-eyed blonde classy stylish feminine slender 42 intelligent sophisticated & cultured humorous friendly & kind hearted looking for a tall dark kind attractive interesting man. London based. Box 6862

BEAUTIFUL blonde who prefers Italy would like the gentleman to contact her again. No telephone no was encl. Box 6027

BEAUTIFUL lively blonde graduate girl 36 seeks attractive professional man 39-48 for happy future. London. Box 6864

BLONDE, intelligent, feminine, attractive, tactile, v.slim, lively, happy lady, 5'4", VGSOH. Unbelievably 50 varied interests. Seeks tall, passionate, positive, affectionate, humorous, solvent soulmate 40+. Surrey /London area. Plse write with photo/phone no to Box 6854

BLONDE Glamorous romantic writer & travel photographer, BA, 40's, n/s, seeks wealthy, well-spoken man. London. Please Reply to Box No 7047

BLUE eyed, tall, blonde, slim, sensuous, athletic and considered beautiful female university lecturer. Divorced, independent, young 50, family loving, compassionate, courageous and occasionally wise: seeks sensitive, funny, intelligent and loyal man to share music, theatre, films, books, dancing, ideas, travel, walking, tennis, laughter, good food and wine. Based Yorkshire/Durham border. Please Reply to Box No 7201

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BRISTOL lady, forties, divorced with a wonderful life would like to meet a tallish, cuddly man who is funny, articulate and interesting. My interests are varied but music, travel and people are important. Please write with a phone number and then we can talk as I really don't know what else to say in this advert. Plse Rply Box 7134

BRITISH based professional, attractive, - youthful looking lady, would like to share many interests including travel, walking, dining out, music and sailing with professional N.S. He should be in his 50's/60's, kind, good company with a sense of humour. P.A. Box No 7141

BROADMINDED, educated, Liberal, liberal, extroverted, nonconformist, many interests & activities, humourous, romantic, optimistic, average well-dressed grandma, widow, 70, 5'3", 10 stone, seeks lonely grandpa, caring, sharing, laughter & happiness. Midlands area Box No 7087

BUSY brunette (29) interested in life's Bounty. Seeking a non-Drifter, a bit of a Smartie, wanting to share Allsorts and my last Rolo? Give it a Twirl! Box 6944

CARDIFF castaway seeks man for Friday (Saturday & Sunday?) Independent, professional female, mid 40's. Interests sailing, bridge, gardening, walking, wining and dining. Please reply Box 6990

CARDIFF Attractive Arts academic WLTM lovely/loving man of intellect & humour 40's Photo plse. Box No 7225

CHARMING, attractive, funloving lady (40's) seeks sincere, sensitive, intelligent man with adventurous spirit & GSOH, n/s, to share good times & companionship.Box No 7187

CHEMISTRY and companionship sought by articulate but cuddly young widow. Open minded graduate anxious to contribute to a well rounded interesting life with soulmate 55-65 who wants a permanent happy relationship. London based, world travelled, but country born with flexible living ideas. Reply to Box No 6842

CHESHIRE based very attractive, active, slim female, 58, seeks successful attractive non smoking male 40-55. Photo please. Please Reply Box 6751.

CHESTER lady late 40's divorced. Interests in classical guitar, gardening, good wines, seeks tall gentlemen 50-58 for friendship. Box No 7037

CHINESE well-educated lady working in England, mid 30s, 5'6, slim, v. attractive, warm and sincere; separated with a child: seeks prof caring gentleman, 37-47, with GSOH for sincere relationship. Recent photo & full details apprec Box 6901

COTSWOLDS gal (without a a pair of green wellies) in her 40s, WLTM a caring, honest, interesting guy for shared leisuretime. Please write with phone number to Box No 7161

CREATIVE, sporty, arts loving mum, 42, slim, attractive, positive, GSOH, n/s, seeks similar male to share many interests and discover new ones together. Cotswolds. Reply Box No 6769

CREATIVE attractive 29 yr old woman WLTM handsome, intelligent man (29-39) for love, laughs & who the hell knows! - London based. Box No 7024

CURVACEOUS leggy blue-eyed blond 5'8 Virgo (33) amusing, easy going, wants similar naughty-eyed tiger (30-45) with big smile & personality for food wine fun & hopefully more. Photo please to Box No 6738.

DOCTOR, 37, attractive, fit, enjoys music, wine, walking, tennis, skiing. Seeks tall, active, n/s professional man, late 30's/early 40's, with some similar interests to enjoy life and summer sunshine. SW London /Surrey Box No 6900

DYNAMIC attractive, petite, stylish, champagne loving, outgoing, workaholic lady (Herts) who plays as hard as she works. WLTM successful professional 5'10" plus, dark haired, fit, 35+ for fun, laughter and intimate moments. Photo please. Please Reply to Box No 7224

EARLY 30's, fabulous young lady, stunningly attractive, Jamaican, lives in the Midlands seeks permanent relationship man 28-48 write now with photo and phone number to Box No 6956

EX-AIR HOSTESS, graduate, 50s, attractive, solvent, no ties, living West Country, seeks serious male counterpart with intellect and empathy (56-65). Letter with photo ensures reply. Please Reply to Box No 6753.

EXTREMELY attractive fair, slim privately educated 34, 5'4" wishes to meet similar background successful well spoken attractive man. Permanent relationship, London/Home Counties. Box No 7056

FAST Lane lady is indicating that she would like more of life in a slower lane. 1957 MG bodywork, toured many fields, checking her mirror for professional male with GSOH n/s fit & interesting, possible view to double garage ono, Midlands. Please Reply to Box No 6983

FEMININE Prof woman slim stylish attractive & affectionate seeking youthful 60ish cultured educated reasonably successful well presented man to love for life with happy nature generosity of spirit & integrity Photo helps Box No 7061

FEMININE independent, beautiful lady, 33 seeks gentleman, London, South East. Please Reply to Box No 6890.

FINNISH medical writer /authoress, slim, humorous, loving, absolutely fabulous, smoker, exceptionally young 55, seeks easygoing gentleman for mutual appreciation. Please Reply to Box No 6792

FLORIDA USA ex London Jewish lady (58) very attractive feminine fun loving & intelligent (good cook) seeks lively sincere sensitive Jewish professional gentleman with GSOH to share cultural activities & mutual interests in Judaism. Meetings in London. Box No 6892

FULL of life, Surrey lady, 48 n/s, widely interested in theatre, classical music, arts & travel, seeks tall professional gentleman with great SOH, aged 45-55. Photo please. Box No 6756

GENTLEMEN 50-70 we need you! Lovely ladies 50 plus slim attractive and intelligent. Telephone Watercolours 9am - 9pm Mon - Sun 0171 629 3185.

GOLFER (17HC) n/s slim attractive lady living s/coast, WLTM tall handsome romantic caring golfer 45-60ish "to play around with" for starters? Photo ensures rply to Box 7124

GRADUATE 39, well travelled, lively, artistic, musical educated, warm n/s female seeks down to earth, prof, family minded, sea/country loving sincere male for caring/sharing relationship with whom to settle down & start late in life family. Sgle parents welcome Box 7219

HAPPY, warm, fun-loving, professional woman, young 47, 5'6", n/s, non-sporty, likes dining, theatre & arts, travel, crosswords, WLTM n/s man with GSOH to share laughs, love, life. Photo please. ALA. Hants. Reply to Box No 6946

HOLDING hands at midnight, - no fun on your own! Warm, gentle, pretty, Cancerian lady seeks n/s, tall, humorous professional man 46-60 for sincere relationship. London/Home Counties Plse reply Box 6889

HOW about keeping me company. I'm 56 yrs, 5'6", slim, independent, divorced. Just discovered golf. Looking for well educated man to share theatre, books, talk etc & maybe reduce handicap. S.E.Eng Box No 7060

HUGE reward offered to tallish cultured professional n/s man 50s with many interests, old fashioned ideals & a generous heart, who can rekindle the flames of love smouldering in the passionate heart of slim successful blonde enchantress. Beautiful home & lots of fun awaits you! London/South East. Photo ess. Box No 6849

I am an attractive, amusing lawyer, young 39, recently divorced with 2 not-so-young children, finding single life a culture shock. My wide interests include theatre, film, books, travel, food & wine etc. I would love to meet an interesting, educated, warm & sociable man hopefully for romance but at least to have fun with. GSOH absolutely essential. London/S.W. Letter & photo please. Reply to Box No 6955

I am looking for a man with a loving heart, strong arms, who is affectionate, honest, intelligent & willing to live in USA for part of a year. I run my own business in London & want to start a new phase in my life with less work, more laughter & a greater connection to nature & spiritual life. Age 38-46 (n/s). Please Reply to Box No 6971

I am loving stable educated 58 widow. Would be merry with slim man, concert-goer, liking good food, wine, unafraid commitment ready to rehearse for wicked old age together. Reply to Box 6867

I am 54 years young feminine and solvent with great style, sense of fun and adventure. I am Cancerian - creative, practical and slightly crazy. I love life and still believe I have a lot of living to do. But am not into gardening smoking or cats. I W.L.T.M. a warm and witty possibly Scorpio Thames Valley man who shares and appreciates these qualities and is not yet ready for slippers by the fire. Plse write to Box 7136

I'D rather be sailing than writing this ad. Skipper wanted, warm, romantic, into music, Pavarotti to Phil, articulate, wacky sense of humour, solvent, fit, sensual, love of life and people a must, n/s. Your crew: happy, unconventional, adventurous 42 yr old v. feminine woman, 5ft7in, dark haired, laughing eyes, attractive, comfy in wellies or high heels, loves life and is loyal and giving. Let me practise my bowlines and tie you up in knots. Photo please. ALA. London and SE. Box 6794

IF I'm so wonderful how come I'm alone? Because we have not met! Attractive, slim, successful career woman (also modest), 40, seeks unattached successful well educated London based man under 55. Please write with phone no. to Box No 6927

INDEPENDENT, successful redhead, 38, living W.London /Berks seeks humorous well-read, well-travelled graduate. Likes include watersports, good food, sunsets, log fires. Photo essential. Box No 6771

INTERESTING lady 49. Professional. Attractive. Interests: leaning towards the arts & a love of walking. Personality: warm, caring, humorous, positive & independent. Have "Joie de Vivre". Box No 7081

I seek him here I seek him there - I'm 47 with never a care, living in Chelsea - reply if you dare!! Photo please Please.Box No 7228

LADY 60s intelligent slim caring n/s wishes to meet a gentleman for companionship, love - Suffolk. Plse Reply to Box 6740

LANDSCAPE designer, business publisher, foodie and cat lover, 37, seeks tall, clever, articulate and sociable N/S man with similar eclectic interests and green values. If you've heard of Oehme and van Sweden, Anthony Paul, Peter Schwartz and Joyce Molyneux, and also enjoy arty films, good coffee, Radio 4 and poking around junk yards, please write! No Tories. Herts/London. Please Reply to Box No 7126

LEGGY, personable, mid-fifties, N/S, still working lady. Mischievous, sensitive, good-humoured, loves sun, sea & countryside. Close Junc.9 M25. Seeks tall, affectionate, tactile, N/S, non-menopausal man to unravel my string & find the end of my sellotape. Photo please. Reply to Box No 7138

LIFE is perfect except for a friend (not a husband) to share literature, the arts, travel and talk with. Pref. 55-65, n/s, professional. I'm 55, energetic, independent N. London. Box 6899

LITHUANIAN based student, 21 loves music and sport seeks serious, pleasant Afro/Caribbean gentleman aged 22-28 for permanent relationship. Please Reply to Box No 7152

LIVELY attractive girl, 38, intelligent and independent based in South Bucks WLTM well-spoken educated man, 30-40 with GSOH. Must like animals, countryside, eating and having fun. Photo apprec. Please Reply to Box No 6988

LIVELY Slim intel. blond Cheshire based PA. Early 40's, div./ & enjoy's an active social life. If you're a single, successful, prof. tall, N/S gent reply inc phone number & photo. Box No 7205

LOOKING for a miracle? So am I. There must be someone out there who is reasonably good looking, interesting, adventurous and solvent, under 58 with a GSOH, looking for a life lady to spend time with. If you are there please write with photo asap. Herts. Box No 6815

LONDON based really attractive tall slim Brunett (39). Weekend on farm with horses, WLTM a truley genuine gentleman, who might enjoy similar lifestyle. Perhaps older? Photo please. Box No 6679

LONDON SE. Warm, attractive, slim, young 59 German-born professional woman, active, adventurous, tender WLTM soulmate for loving partnership. You are late 50s mid 60ish, 5'8"+, cultured, sensitive, solvent & not frightened of commitment should we be right for each other. Plse reply Box 7129

ME - attractive tall (6ft) international prof now returned to central London (31) widely travelled enjoys all aspects of city & country life. You - charming intelligent cosmopolitan guy (30-45) looking for that special woman to share life's passions. Box No 7147

MEET attractive, sexy women at London singles' parties. MEET 'N' EAT 071 629 6534

MEN OF THE WORLD, now is your time! If you live in the Midlands we have over 290 sophisticated ladies 25-70. Elite Introductions 021 386 3444.

ME: Tall, slim, blonde, sporty, 33, confident, no ties, own career. Likes good food & hedonistic holidays & people that laugh a lot. You: Assertive, articulate, 35-50, n/s, sociable, sophisticated, fit, intelligent, successful & solvent with no ties. SOH essential. Want to meet and giggle about why we've even thought about writing/ answering an ad like this? North of England (Unless you want to be pen-pals.) Photo and details to Box No 6935

MR Normal where are you? Oxon, sociable 36 yr old, "unexpectedly available", wanting to enjoy life seeks tall, unattached man. GSOH and no hang-ups essential. Must like laughing, food, wine, country pursuits and children - 4 yr old and goldfish to consider! Reply with letter & photo. Box 7221

MRS KING seeks Mr King. Object: pool energy, property, integrity, humour, wealth of love. He: 46-60, n/s, charming, fun (less chaotic than George..) handsome, sensuous, wise, eloquent professional yet song /dance man at heart. She: Seriously attractive, blonde, slim, resilient, properties owner /actress /songwriter; dreams, values, intact yet little weary reigning alone(South). Photo: vital (courage!). Box No 6788

MUSICAL? Pianist? Petite, attractive N.W.London amateur mezzo, 42, gsoh. Aims. WLTM tall, N/S, practical charmer of similar age with varied interests for possible lifetime duet. Photo please Box No 7146

MY delightful, 60ish, and especially lovely Mother WLTM passionate, gentle, pottering, patient man. Intelligent replies with photo to Box No 6831

NORFOLK Baroque music enthusiast, late 30's, recently divorced, 2 children, WLTM n/s man with social graces to prove that East Anglia is not a cultural desert. Reply to Box No 6984

OVER 50? Gentlemen in the Midlands looking for stylish and sophisticated women Elite Introductions' special offer for 14 days, we have over 290 ladies waiting to meet you, call for appt 0121 386 3444

OXON-based attractive, slim, independent redhead, 39, WLTM tall professional emotionally stable male with GSOH. Please reply Box 6846

PETITE attractive warm-hearted & caring alternative medical practitioner 39yrs with country home & animals seeks companionable warm professional gent over 40 for friendship, fun, good conversation etc. S. or W. Wales/Bristol . Box No 6828

PUBLISHER, late forties, blond, attractive, uncomplicated seeks young, 40-55, thoughtful male with positive outlook & a touch of charisma to share cultural pursuits, laughter, food, drink & hopefully more. Photo please. Please reply to Box No 7195

REFINED, V. Attractive T. Blonde 35, Private Ed. seeks Tall Single Prof Gent 31-45 Photo Pls. Devon (could travel) Please Reply to Box No 6691

RICHMOND Hill 32yrs .very interesting occupation lovely house & sports car WLTM normal tall professional happy man, n/s. Box No 6888

SAD golden girl, 60, widowed in idyllic surroundings. Witty, shrewd, caring. Loves animals, Newhart, Lerher, countryside tranquility. Seeks mature, sympathetic male prof kindred spirit for old fashioned friendship only - remember it? Occasional letter/visit. Impossible quest? Please Reply to Box No 7038

SARAH, slim, goodlooking, 35, fun, sensitive & educated seeks perceptive, confident & interesting man with fast car to York. Photo please to Box No 7096

SEXY, sporty, sensitive, slim, striking, tall 40s independent lady seeks energetic, intelligent, supportive n/s man for lasting relationship. London/Essex. Photo appreciated. Box 6853

SOMWHERE There must be someone who loves travelling, classical music, golf (not serious!) and enjoying all the good things in life, but who would prefer to share everything. I am London based, early fifties, attractive, elegant, run my own small company but the loss of a loving partner changed my life. WLTM a fun, attractive, caring gentleman to enjoy life with. Write with photo. Box No 7093

SOUTH American lady mid 30s WLTM n/s well educated solvent gentleman with GSOH. London. Plse reply Box 6754

STYLISH slim and intelligent blonde lady, late 50s 5ft 4" and solvent. Enjoys dancing, theatre, dining out, country pubs and walks. WLTM distinguished gentleman, kind caring and solvent of similar interests. Aged 55-63 Height 5ft 8" - 6ft 2" Area Herts/Beds/Bucks. Reply to Box No 6963

TALL, slim, well dressed, attractive black lady interested in theatre, music & travel. WLTM tall, attractive gentleman (aged 45-55) for a meaningful relationship. Box No 7085

SATURDAY RENDEZVOUS

CASCADE

We specialise in being SOCIAL GROUPS for the UNATTACHED, highly established and meeting weekly in

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WE DON'T...

take all ages but strive to maintain a good balance of male/female, hence gentlemen 30'ish to 55, ladies 30 to 50.

WE DO...

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Tete a Tete invites you to join our exclusive club for busy professional ladies and gentlemen. Tete a Tete events include: dining at prestigious London restaurants, entree to night clubs, balls, and race meetings, house parties and more.

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LADIES

TRAVEL companion sought for adventurous girl, thirties. Planning visit Australia 6 weeks end October. Learn Scuba diving/wind surfing + sightseeing. Pay own way, no strings attached. Other interests classical music, sailing, skiing, diy, enjoying life!Box No 7214

UNDER 30. Do you like to party - have a professional career under 30 seeking to meet more people and make new friends - Join us in lots of fun places call 0171 629 3185 Mon-Sun 9am-9pm Yvette.

VERY attractive, slim, 5'6", well spoken elegant, single, 38 wishes to meet well educated successful privately educated man with a zest for living entrepreneurial London/Home Counties, to 55yrs Box No 7057

VERY Pretty, slim, funloving Jewish successful lady, 40's, who loves to share the ups & downs of life and who is looking for that special person. He should be tall, attractive with G.S.O.H., kind & caring & loves to laugh. Photo essential for reply. Box No 7166

VERY well educated Chinese lady seeking very well educated English gentleman, honest, caring & solvent for lasting relationship, possibly marriage. Box No 6970

WANTED Genuine 49+ gentleman n/s, GSOH S/Lincs. Area to share life's pleasures with caring lady 5'6" slim blonde attractive photo plse Box 6989

WOULD you love Newmarket in July and Longchamp in October? Warm, attractive, outgoing, affectionate, sporty lady, 56, seeks similar witty man with adventurous spirit to share whatever! London based but not London bound? Photo please Reply to Box No 7132

GENTLEMEN

ABANDONED? Not by Camelot anyway. Seven figured Special girlfriend who recognises a good thing when she sees it sought by lovely tall willowy Surrey/London man. Just 39. Photo essential. Box No 6980

ACE mind with quite a nice body attached, young 40's, 12 years abroad, just returned to London, active sociable literate WLTM younger cosmopolitan girl. Reply to Box No 6880

ACTIVE, presentable, professional, latish, sociable, open, independent, long divorced Midlands male. Parenting almost complete. Enjoys riding, country, backgammon, ideas, theatre, new experiences. Seeks relaxed, uncomplicated, fortyish, attractive, educated, adventurous, warm & caring lady, to laugh with. Photo appreciated. Box No 6871

ACTIVE easy going tall slim professional 30 year old enjoys sailing, skiing, travel and the outdoors seeks independent slim intelligent woman who desires the zest of life. Cambridge/London Area. Photo appreciated. Box 7157

ACUTELY lonely gentleman (54), additionally suffering from rampant conceit as he considers himself to be very kind, nice looking, tall, slim & solvent - seeks photoless, pretty lady, living in South East. Please kindly write to Box No 7112

AFFECTIONATE professional gentleman, slim, unattached, attractive, caring, strong, solvent, based nr. Bath. Enjoys conversation, humour, business, wining/dining, walking, countryside, sport inc. tennis. Seeks compatible n/s amusing, warm, tactile lady 25-45, searching for a loyal, enthusiastic partner and loving relationship. Please Reply to Box 6728.

AFFLUENT bachelor, early forties located in SW1. Enjoys travel, sport, films. WLTM stylish lady with sensational figure & sense of humour. Photo appreciated. Box No 6737

A luxury narrowboat & male skipper 50s feels 30s looks 40s seeks a female partner to share inland cruising & provide the feminine touch. Box No 6832

AMERICAN in Conn. intelligent, financially secure, 38, 5'9", 190lbs, GSOH. Enjoys golf, skiing, scuba, flying, travel. Looking to meet an intelligent fun-loving, uninhibited woman with some of these interests for friendship, fun and possible relationship. Box No 7106

AMUSING , attractive, sensuous, tall Bath man, 40, ambitious, successful, loves travel, cinema, theatre, eating out, eating in, nights on the town, weekends in the country. Generous, romantic and good humoured. I am seeking a fun loving younger woman to thoroughly spoil and pamper. Summer is just around the corner so why not have some delicious enjoyable times with a man who is fun to be with and really knows how to please. Just write to me with your tel. no. to Box No 6974

ARE you 1 Timothy 5.9? Or single in the same age range? Non-conformist evangelical widower seeks Christian friendship. 50 mile radius of London. Please Reply Box No. 6795

A Self made, single, Yorks based businessman, 40, with Pub Sch education, good looks, GSOH & sporting / outdoor interests seeks intelligent, attractive, fun loving female 30-40 with own interests & willingness to share for outings fun & maybe more. Happy to travel N/S preferred. Photo please Box No 7186

ARTIST, Athletic, blond, outdoor type, Wagnerian Romantic, 49, seeks warm, attractive, sensual, easy-going wife, 24-42. Children a bonus. Bucks, Herts, anywhere.Box No 7189

A young at heart 44 year old male entrepreneur 5'11", blue eyes, good appearance, nonsmoking wine drinker, interested in country life, sailing, flying, travelling, entertaining & good food. Seeks younger lady who like myself has most of the good points & just a few bad. Mike... Box No 7068

BACHELOR Midland Doctor 40s seeks woman 25-35 educated unattached cultured, nationality unimportant for relationship marriage happiness love. Sincere Replies to Box No 7050

BERKSHIRE/WILTS area. Honest caring single male, 40's, WLTM unattached attractive slim female 30/40's in same area to share friendship, occasional country walks, pub lunches & life's ups and downs. If this is for you, do please write with photo to Box No 6731

BIDDABLE housegirl needed, not just for the dusting, by fit and literary former Lloyd's Name, now bereft hair and fortune. Beauty, wit, and wealth would be good: a compassionate Christian heart better. London/Kent area. Bermuda connections a bonus. Please no Quocker-Wodgers. Box 6675

BRISTOL. Living in the real world nice chap, 50, widower, seeks nice lady. Sorry I am not a tall, dark, handsome, yacht sailing Co. Dir. but I do love life and nice cup of coffee Box 6963

BUSINESS director, cultured, cosmopolitan, 50s, tall, attractive, solvent non London based seeks preferably London based charismatic, attractive, plumptious, elegant lady. You are of exceptional curvy design, physically aware, warm and sophisticated. You must enjoy relaxed lifestyle, theatre, concerts, good food and wine and be prepared to share pleasure and passion. Photo with letter please to Box No 6968

CARING male 40 honest, professional, travelled, 5'11", attractive, good physique likes countryside seeks togetherness with caring unpretentious slim, shapely female. Cheshire /elsewhere. Reply Box No 6821

CLWYD- Treeman, 60 acres, own business, English, 40, looks younger, divorced, 1 daughter. Seeks bright, funny, attractive female under 40 preferably living nearby. Interests: countryside, laughing, sunshine, prunes and staying at home mostly. Photo and telephone number appreciated. Please Reply to Box No 7018

DARE to care again. Mid 40's man London/Thames Valley based craves once again intimacy, warmth and passion of caring, loving relationship. Points of contact embrace theatre, good food and better wine; Italy & France; stimulating conversation & reasonable politics; country house hotels; & long lazy Sunday mornings. I want high standards, warmth, passion & the innocence to care again. I'm happily solvent, company director, tolerantly public school and an active father of 2 teenagers. Time has come to rejoin the real world. Photograph & bespoke letter ensure reply and hopefully dinner. Please Reply to Box No 6841

DEFERENTIAL Design Director, fifties, divorced, silver haired, 5'9", medium build, has all the ingredients for the good life except Ms. Right. WLTM attractive, younger, professional gentlewoman, single or divorced, who would like to start afresh. Location NW but distance no object for the right smile. Plse write, photo if poss Box 7160

DENTIST, sensitive, cerebral (but fun), tall, fit, uncomplicated, early fifties, optimistic. Seeks special lady to complement his being. Plse Reply Box No 7115

DEVON. I walk, camp, travel, dance, am fit, deep, loyal, educated, sensitive, a country lover. 48, 5'8". Try me! Photo appreciated. Box No 6898

ENERGETIC Lancs lad 64 Motorhome enthusiast n/s WLTM outgoing down to earth lady who enjoys dancing travel & can afford to spend the whole of winter in Spain Box 6875

EVANGELICAL Anglican man (recent convert), 34, lives Surrey, works City. Seeks Christian woman to share faith, classical music, wining/dining, countryside. Box No 7027

EVERYTHING but the lady who is probably no more than 45, certainly attractive romantic, tactile, sensitive independent and a n/s. Who like this very successful tall Director has probably been too busy. Photograph essential. Box No 6913.

GENTLEMAN 40+ seeks exceptional lady 30-40 with a desire to enjoy life and be happy. Central London & World. Letter and photo guarantees reply and maybe an invitation to Ladies Day at Ascot. Plse Rply to Box 6994

GOOD-LOOKING creative photographer, very young 46 seeks slim n/s young lady to share fun lifestyle. Photo & phone no. please. London. Box 6793

GRAD prof v.handsome tall kind willowy, considerate, SOH. Humble man with integrity, wisdom, charm, v.sgl. yng 30 Muslim. n/s/dkr. light skin WLTM unsophis sgl lady 18-45 good/ beaut nature/looks/fig fship & or rship prof lawyer, medic prof. city prof businessw, student othe welcome Tall friends, be confident, discrn. Phto app. City/Yorks/NE/NW /Anywhere. Box No 6689.

HUMOROUS, intelligent man, 35, seeks lady for laughs and maybe for life. London/ Southeast Plse Reply Box No 7154

I don't seem to be in the mould of my fellow advertisers. They are all T.D.H. & lots of other letters, no doubt some unprintable. I spend my winters in comfort, skiing in the French Alps and have someone to do the cleaning as I tend to be a bit lazy. In summer I go trekking in Asia. Nepal is my current favourite where attempts are being made to teach me golf. I am 5'7", 52 & fit. Please reply, preferably with photo; Oh warning! Despite my professional background I was born in Ireland & enjoy my pint. Box No 7069

I HAVE spent too long collecting material things, penthouse flat, house in the Caribbean etc. and not enough time looking for you. I am early 30s London based, you are twenties n/s, maybe you are from the Far East, that does not mean Essex. Interest in travel, good food and good wine and fast cars and fun. Photo guarantees answer. Please Reply to Box No 6718.

I'M 51, divorced, 6'1", fit, capable, work in the Arts. Love walking, gardens, canals, country. Hate sports, smokers and often north London, where I live. Hope to meet lady 35-50 for loving relationship. Photo appreciated. Box No 6985

INTELLIGENT, caring, fit, youngish (50) man, no ties, seeks educated, sincere, stylish lady, 40s, to share interest in wining, dining, sailing, travel, music and mountains. Photo essential. London/SE. Please Reply to Box No 6870

INTERNATIONAL businessman, 52, recently out of a relationship, bruised but not scarred (just lightly shaken). Seeks loving partner with sense of humour. London area. Photo please. Reply to Box No 7075

LAWYER 36, level headed, likes most sports, excellent SOH and a wide range of interest WLTM a bright and sensitive woman (late 20s/early 30s) with an engaging personality, and zest for life, to share good times and perhaps a lasting relationship. London/South East. Photo please. Reply to Box No 6762.

LIVELY goodlooking, sensual, slim Dutch bachelor, Kent based, 50 years young, loves the theatre, music, art, eroticism. Seeks a soulmate - friendship with an interesting, sensual, younger female, who has a deep understanding of her desires and passions. Please Reply to Box No 6666.

LIVING in glorious Devon a rather lonely but contented fellow having many interests especially music is seeking friendship with any sweet tempered, middle aged lady who finds herself in a similar plight. Please respond to Box No 7033

LONDON based professional male 40's GSOH. Enjoys keep fit, gardening, history, literature, cinema, Shakespeare, theatre, good food and wine & good company seeks slim attractive romantic warm, caring, fun loving female. Central & West London area. Please Reply to Box No 6955

LONDON based prof Tourist Guide unattached 50 pleasant, n/s, slim, solvent, wide variety of interests WLTM a nice lady for friendship. Box No 6826

MID-FORTIES, mild-mannered gentleman with dog with petite, pretty lady with or without daughter. My house + your heart = mutual happiness, trust & love. S of Thames. Box 6993

1951 Model PCA, one owner, smooth runner, 6ft body. Parks at theatre, good pubs, carries golf & sailing gear. Garaged Herts. WLTM 1960's Model With GSOH & Classic Lines Photo plse. Plse rply Box 6897

N.W. based professional male in early thirties who is attractive caring and intelligent. Interests include sports, arts, cinema, music etc. WLTM attractive and sensitive female aged 25-36 for friendship and possibly more. Photo essential. Box No 7026

NICE guy, 34, single grad/prof. N.London. Independent and emotionally aware. Ex-workaholic and now re-building social values. Likes wine/dine, classical music, opera, radio 4, languages. WLTM nice girl for friendship/conversation, possibly relationship. Box No 7168

NORTH WEST: Gentleman, Lawyer, 47, Looks younger, good looking, enjoys socialising, keeping fit, VGSOH, non smoker, 'carpe diem'. Please Reply to Box No 7155

NW Male 35 fit, funloving but genuine & caring. Passionate skier, budding [illegible]. Now mourning lack of snow. Would like to meet a lady who is fit, friendly and wacky enough to take up roller blading during the long summer and beyond. Please Reply to Box No 7159.

OXFORD Graduate, 33, reasonably attractive, SOH, unassuming. Interests include various sports, music (but not opera), languages, books, countryside. Dislike of crowds. London based. Would like to hear from like-minded female. Photo appreciated. Box 6806

OXFORD Graduate, wife died aged 34, seeks intelligent, shy, n/s Establishment girl, 20s-30s. Old enough to be your father but eligible and full of go. Travel, Wimbledon, theatre, village life, total love. Worth being unconventional to meet-nobody need know. Box 7120

PROFESSIONAL man, 60s. Fit, youthful, slim, stable. Likes countryside, walking, music WLTM from a n/s lady with warmth and integrity to share life's gentle pleasures. N.West. Please Reply to Box No 6859

BIKER seeks Intell- Academic Exiled Scot (29), articulate, badly bruised and looking for TLC, eternal optimist, great cook, romantic, scientist. London based WLTM intelligent woman (25-35) for fun and possibly romance if the magic is there. GSOH a must, N/S preferred, similar outlook a bonus. ALA. reply to Box 6804

ROMANTIC male (56) separated, seeks continental lady for travel, friendship and eventual marriage. Plse Rply Box 6876

RUGGED but handsome abandoned 42 yr old tiger in need of TLC, very sensitive and caring. Enjoys music including classics, photography & a good veggie cook. If you are slim, medium, intelligent, poetic, gorgeous etc & between 28 & 38 this beast could be your wild pet. Letter & photo appreciated. London. Reply to Box No 6863

SAILOR Scholar, nobody's perfect! Politically incorrect, humourist hedonist, iconoclast. Tall, slim. Early retired with own 'amphibia business & boat. WLT share with n/s 30/40's sun/fun seeking girl VGSOH. Photo please. Box 6961

RURAL living and loving retired gentleman 60+ resident NE Scotland still fit, active and young at heart seeks laughter loving soul mate to share his interests and leisure possibly on a long term basis. These include all country pursuits, walking, skiing and music. Photo appreciated to be returned. Plse Reply Box 6800

SEX. Now I've got your attention, wanted, a woman who knows her place and is not afraid to be secured into it. Age? Under 55 & fit. Good figure important, but attitude more so. Exciting, but caring encounter awaits. Dare you reply? Photo & no. plse. SE. Box No 6786

SMART successful businessman 36 tall handsome public school educated family values well travelled no ties seeks tall slim very attractive lady who is smart refined under 35 to enjoy eating out, theatre, cinema, fresh air walks, sunshine travelling, good conversation and GSOH. Cheshire Merseyside area. Photo essential. Please reply to Box No 7073

SMASHING chap who can cook! London, 43. Good-looks, strong identity, heart and soul. Adores Rock & Classical. Up for relationship with optimistic, imaginative woman who treasures life not gold. Phone number essential. Box No 7090

STYLISH intelligent solvent early retired(Sandhurst army bus exec), bald, athletic(squash, tennis, golf) divorced, much travelled (15 yrs abroad incl Paris) incurably romantic man has not yet met that slim, independent 55- woman with humour and that special something. Photo & phone no. appreciated. Berks. Box No 6809

SUCCESSFUL Company Director, West End based, 42 5'9" fit sporty GSOH recently available due to time waster. Seeks intelligent attractive lady 27-38, non smoker. Photo appreciated. Box No 6946

SUCCESSFUL, sensitive, well-spoken chap, 49, 6 ft, GSOH, seeks part/full time romantic employment, to love, pamper and please that special, elegant, sensual, attractive lady. Please Reply to Box No 7010

SWIMMING Trunks 38, athletic, 5'11", quiet, sporty, non smoking engineer based in London WLTM n/s bikini 28-40 with a spark & a photo (preferably with sandcastle). Little sandpie makers bring opportunities not problems. Box No 7105

TALL Creative intelligent male (46) offers stimulating cookery/conversation to unpretentious adventurous female 30's/40's Box No 7165

TALL 50 successful businessman brown eyes dark hair into many non fiction hobbies interested in tall lady 28-40 teacher nurse or business lady for romance. photo apprec. Please Reply Box No 6915

VERY active Widower, 70 (Looks younger). Own hair and teeth. Never ill. Not Rich or Public School but well educated. Intelligent, happy, solvent. Good humoured, Times crosswords, books, classical music, opera, Jazz, travel, animal lover, 5ft 8in. Neither fat nor thin. Offers T.L.C. to intelligent, tall or petite lady with G.S.O.H. any Nationality. Can drive anywhere. Box 6803

VISITING Town? A day to remember for a stylish woman d'un certain age (40s/50s): Harrods, Harvey Nichols, Bond St, lunch at Quaglino's, The Royal Academy, tea at The Ritz.... in the company of a tall, slim, handsome, educated man (36) n/s. Your letter, photo and phone no. will be reciprocated. Go on! Reply to Box No 6798

WARM hearted GSOH successful 40 year old man seeks shared cultural entertainment sporting gastronomic domestic and stimulating experiences with romantic lady in London area. Box No 7039

WIDOWER (2 yrs) 63, 5'11", slim looks about 50, active, tennis player, horseman, social, outgoing, literate, GSOH. Pleasant own home (pool tennis court). Herts. Apartment Spain. Own successful hi-tec business. Two nice grown up children now married, away. Seeks unattached good-looking, intelligent, cultivated, outgoing, caring, fun, 50yr old lady to share entertainment, travel & fun. Long term relationship in mind. Really current photo please. Reply to Box No 6869

WIDOWER - semi-retired professional solvent n/s young early 60s 5'10" honest, sincere sensitive tactile interested inter alia in sport, travel and current affairs WLTM attractive slim/ish unattached independent solvent n/s lady late 40s+ London/ North Hants/West Surrey for meaningful relationship, recent photo & letter Please Reply to Box No 7020

WIDOWER - semi-retired professional solvent n/s young early 60s 5'10" honest, sincere sensitive tactile interested inter alia in sport, travel & current affairs WLTM attractive slim unattached independent solvent n/s lady late 40s+ London/ NorthHants/West Surrey for meaningful relationship, recent photo & letter please Box 6877

YOUNG in heart, retired, unattached, Told I am attractive & have charm. Most presentable, comfortably placed. Would love to meet like minded lady for friendship, holidays & whatever. Photo please Box No 7114

ELDERLY intelligent gay, 65, New Forest area seeks another with cultural interests to share walks, travel, opera. Box 7048

GAY 33 fit loyal, trustworthy, compassionate, happy, non judgemental attitude straight looking seeks someone up to 37 approx with the same high standards. Cambridge London. Please Reply to Box No 6959

GAY guy, 41, non-scene professional, very sincere seeks similar caring affectionate guy (40-55) for friendship hopefully more. Interests-classical music, reading, countryside, France. London/Sth East. Box No 6949

GAY man, medic, gentle, thoughtful, 39 soon, very slim, musician, learning to dance, seeks quiet ordinary chap 28-45 for sharing things. Please Reply to Box No 6715.

GAY male 32 tall handsome fair complected man seeks 6ft+ man of action to 25-40 London /South East. Frank letter and photo to start. Box No 6844

GAY man, professional, just 48, loyal, sincere, non-scene, musical, seeks affectionate guy, 30-50 for friendship, travel and sharing. Box No 7035

GAY, non-scene professional guy, 39, central London, good looking, slim and fit. Likes squash, cinema, food, wine, and travel. Looking for similar, sincere man with sense of humour 28-45. Photo and frank letter please Reply to Box No 7164

GAY retired professional, slim, fit. London likes Arts, country, animals seeks local partner, or country man for exchanged hospitality. Reply Box No 6760

GAY 44 yrs W. London, solvent, slim build, dark hair, non smoker likes walking, theatre, entertaining and cosy nights in. Please Reply to Box No 6716.

GREY slim male, 50, would like to meet similar male for platonic companionship, Kent Please Reply to Box No 7157

THE TIMES

cannot guarantee that respondents will receive a reply when answering advertisments on this page, although we hope that as a matter of courtesy they will. When making contact with people for the first time it is advisable to meet in a public place and let a member of your family or a trusted friend know where you will be.

We would advise readers and advertisers to exercise caution when giving out personal details. This will be respected by genuine respondents.

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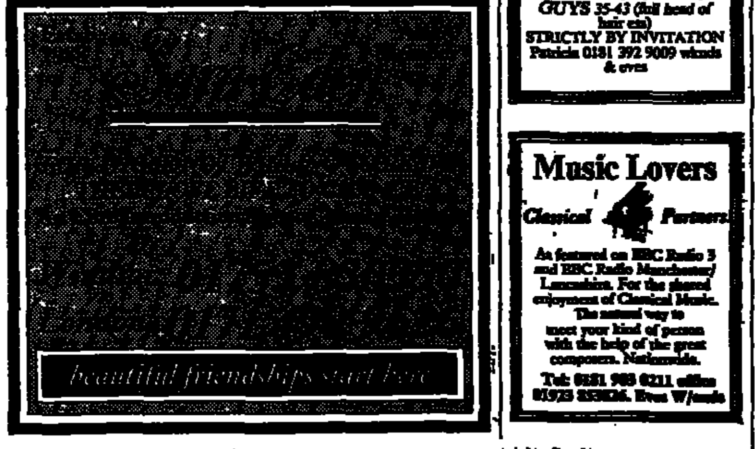

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مكتبة الأهرام

GAMES

by Raymond Keene

WITH KASPAROV'S espousal of the Evans, gambits are back in the news. One which I never had the courage to play, but which can lead to many fascinating situations is the Greco Counter-Gambit, often known as the Latvian, as a result of efforts by Latvian correspondence players. It frequently leads to sudden and sharp denouements, and among the great masters it has been espoused, on occasion, by Nimzowitsch, Keres and Spassky. In his youth, even Bobby Fischer once lost against it. The games which follow convey the flavour of a once-forgotten gambit which is again becoming popular.

White: Petersson; Black: Ortiz
Correspondence, 1970

1	e4	e5	2	Nf3	f5
3	Bc4	fxe4	4	Nxe5	Nf6
5	Nf7	Qe7	6	Nxh8	d5

Black is a rook down, but bearing in mind that the knight on h8 will inevitably be lost this should only be a temporary state of affairs: meanwhile Black has good development and some potent threats.

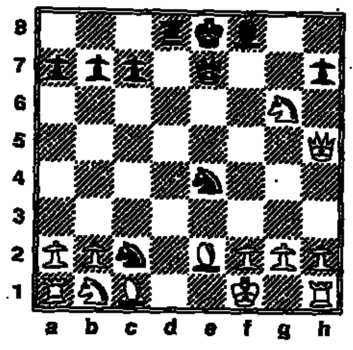
7	Be2	Nc6	8	d3	Bf5
9	dxe4	Nxe4	10	Qxd5	Rd8
11	Qxf5				

It would have been more circumspect to play 11 Qf7+.

11	...	Nd4	12	Qh5+	g6
13	Nxg6				

Naively hoping for 13 ... hxg6 14 Qxg6+ when White's worries are at an end. Instead there comes a thunderbolt of a finish.

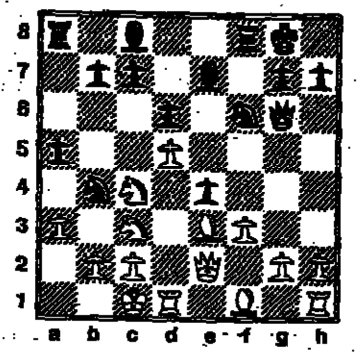
13	...	Nxc2+	14	Kf1	Rd1+



15 Bxd1 Ng3+ White resigns
Whatever White plays, Black mates with 16 ... Qe1.

White: Muratov; Black: Spassky
USSR Ch, 1959

1	e4	e5	2	Nf3	f5
3	Nxe5	Qf6	4	d4	d6
5	Nc4	fxe4	6	Nc3	Qg6
7	Qe2	Nf6	8	f3	Nc6
9	Be3	Be7	10	0-0-0	0-0
11	d5	Nb4	12	a3	a5



A sacrifice to open up the a-file.

13	axb4	axb4	14	Nb1	Ra1
15	Ncd2	exf3	16	gxf3	Nxd5
17	Ne4	Nxe3	18	Qxe3	Be6
19	Rg1	Qf7	20	Ned2	

White misses his chance. When under pressure from a sacrificial attack it is almost always advisable to exchange off enemy units. In that sense White should now have played 20 Ng5 Bxg5 21 Qxg5 when his chances to defend would have been enormously increased.

20	...	Bf6	21	Bd3	Ra2
22	Rde1	Bxb2+	23	Kd1	Bd5
24	Rg5	Be5	25	Reg1	Ra1

White now hands back material to reduce Black's attacking force, but Black's pieces are so active and he has garnered so many extra pawns that White's position is probably beyond repair.

26	Rxe5	dxe5	27	Qxe5	Ra5
28	Kc1	b6	29	Qd4	Qe7
30	Qg4	Kh8	31	h4	Re8

If White now proceeds with his own attack by means of 32 h5 Black has the diabolical riposte 32 ... Qe1+ 33 Rxe1 Rxe1+ 34 Kb2 Ra2 mate.

32	Ne4	b3	33	cxb3	Bxe4
34	Bxe4	Qc5+	35	Bc2	Qe3+
36	Kb2	Qe5+	37	Kc1	Ra2
38	Be4	Qb2+	39	Kd1	Rd8+

White resigns. 40 Ke1 Qc1 mates.

● *A new book, The Latvian Gambit, by grandmaster Tony Kosten, contains 184 games plus extensive analysis. It is published by B. T. Batsford.*

By Raymond Keene

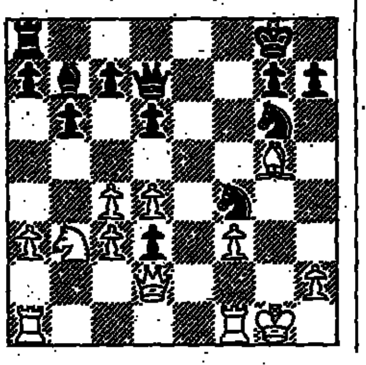
This position is from the game Branz - Goldenov, Minsk 1956.

The white kingside is exposed and this gave Black the chance for a winning combination. What was the key first move?

Send your answers on a postcard to *The Times*, 1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN. The first three correct answers drawn on Thursday will win a British Chess Magazine publication. The answer will be published next Saturday.

Last week's solution: 1 Rd7.

Last week's winners: A Sloan, Newbury, Berks; E Tan, Nottingham; N J Hall, Findon, W Sussex.



PUNCHLINE

READERS are invited to write an amusing caption for the cartoon, right. *The cartoon, from the Punch library, includes the contemporary caption.*

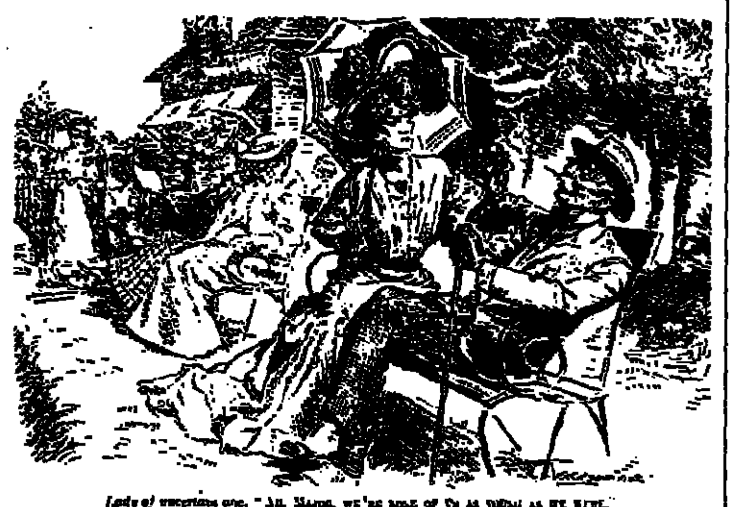
The cartoon will be printed again next week on the Games page with the winning caption selected from those submitted.

Send your caption suggestions, on a postcard please, to:

Cartoon Caption 61, Weekend,
The Times, 1 Pennington Street,
London E1 9XN.

The editor's decision is final.

The closing date for entries is Wednesday, June 14.



Lady of uncertain age. "Ah, Major, we're none of us as young as we were."
Major (absent-minded, but vaguely aware that a gallant answer is indicated).
"My dear lady, I'm sure you don't look it!"

The next Bishop of Winchester

The winning caption for last week's cartoon (above) was submitted by Rosemary Markham of Dinas Powys, South Glamorgan

WORD-WATCHING

By Philip Howard

HAGGADAY
a. A latch
b. A Talmudic legend
c. A tailor's holiday

HEALME
a. An archer's armguard
b. To peel potatoes
c. A cherry

HERNIARY
a. Pertaining to hernia
b. A colony of herons
c. A book of heraldry

JAGHIRE
a. A car hire firm
b. A jeweller's bodkin
c. A king's share

Answers on page 20

COMPUTER GAMES

Cyberspace Fifteen

"I'M TRIMMING down my life, darling. Working to a schedule, movin' out. Have you seen this, darling? It's got all my appointments, meetings, lunches and phone numbers. Everything I need, darling. This is the new me, darling. I'm a mover and a shaker and I'm moving out."

"Why?"

"Well, someone gave it to me free and it's the latest thing."

So said Edina from *Absolutely Fabulous*, clutching an electronic organiser. That product was old hat. What Edina really needs is the Timex Data Link watch.

Developed by Timex and Microsoft Windows, the watch not only tells the time, but, via a built-in watch sensor, receives information from your computer so that it can also tell you about appointments, meetings, lunches and phone numbers. Data is transferred from a PC to the watch by holding it up to the computer screen to read a series of white lines — a sort of visual fax.

Win a Timex Data Link watch

The watch comes with a Windows programme for versions 3.1 and higher, which allows you to change entries in four areas, plus time and alarm settings. You can also import information from any PIM using a format with CSV (comma separated values). The watch is worth £120, and we have three to give away in our latest competition.

Edina's most succinct organiser message read: "Wednesday. 8am. Get up. Kick ass." To enter Cyberspace Fifteen, tell us what humorous message you would put on Timex Data Link watches belonging to John Major, Tony Blair or Paddy Ashdown. You can suggest a message for any one of the three political leaders or messages for all three. For example, Mr Major's reminder might read "Wake up!", Mr Blair's "Take the kids to school" and Mr Ashdown's "Prepare for government".

Cyberspace Fifteen is open to all ages, and you can enter as many times as you wish. Send your entries, including your name, age, address and telephone number, to: Cyberspace Fifteen, Computer Games, Weekend, *The Times*, 1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN. You may also fax entries to us on 0171-729 6791. The closing date is midnight on Tuesday, June 20 and the judges will not enter into additional correspondence.

TIM WAPSHOTT

BRIDGE

by Robert Sheehan

THERE was a substantial British presence this year at the Spring Nationals in Phoenix, one of the American Contract Bridge League's three main tournaments. The other two are the Summer and Fall Nationals. The principal teams event is the Vanderbilt.

The following suit combination seems easy enough for the declarer:

AK97
J82 Q104
653

If the North hand is short of entries in a No-Trump contract, the declarer will duck one round of this suit, and now the three-three break will enable him to make the 13th card. But what if West's opening lead is the jack, apparently marking him with J 10 x (x)? Now the declarer is likely to win the first round, come to hand to lead towards the dummy and finesse the seven (East being careful to win the queen), and subsequently take a second finesse of the nine. The defence makes two tricks where there only seemed to be one.

The ubiquitous Hackett twins pulled off a similar coup in the Vanderbilt. This was the deal (Justin West, Jason East):

Dealer North Love All IMP's

North:
♠5
♥A9432
♦Q72
♣AK54

West:
♠Q87
♥Q1076
♦1043
♣Q102

East:
♠A1092
♥85
♦AJ65
♣963

South:
♠KJ643
♥KJ
♦K98
♣J87

W	N	E	S
—	1♥	Pass	1♠
Pass	2♣	Pass	2NT
Pass	3NT	All Pass	

Contract: Three No-trumps by South.
Lead: ten of clubs.

If you look at the West hand you can see that any lead seems to give up one trick at least. Justin's opening lead was an imaginative club ten. Declarer ran this to his jack, played back the club eight, covered by the queen, to the king, and took a losing heart finesse. Justin returned the club two, and declarer, fooled by the opening lead, tried to run this to his seven. Jason won the club nine, and played a spade to the jack and queen. A heart back to declarer's bare king saw him in desperate straits. He tried the king of diamonds, which held the trick; then a diamond to the queen and ace allowed Jason to cash two more diamonds. Finally, Jason led the spade nine, which held the trick. Declarer also ducked the spade ten, so Jason then cashed the spade ace. The defence had made nine tricks against 3NT.

At the other table, the twins' father Paul was the declarer. The bidding sequence had been exactly the same. He received the lead of the two of clubs, and won his jack at trick one. Perceiving West's discomfort on opening lead, he led the king of hearts from hand, followed by the jack, ducking when the queen appeared. West, back in the hot seat again, tried the diamond ten, and Hackett played the queen from dummy, to East's ace. He put in the nine when East played a second diamond: he was now able to cross to dummy in clubs to set up a long heart for his ninth trick.

The number one seed in the Vanderbilt, Deutsch, was beaten by Platnick in the round of 32. The Deutsch team had four of the six current World Champions (Deutsch-Rosenberg, Stansby-Martel, assisted by Zia Mahmood and Tony Forrester). The Platnick team had three players who had won the 1991 Junior World Championship for the USA, along with the Briton Barry Rigal, who has recently moved to America.

This hand demonstrated the upside of silence in the auction.

Dealer South Game All IMP's

North:
♠852
♥K943
♦874
♣AQJ

West:
♠A9743
♥8
♦AJ952
♣64

East:
♠J10
♥QJ1052
♦63
♣9872

South:
♠KQ6
♥A76
♦KQ10
♣K1053

S	W	N	E
1NT[1]	2♠[2]	Dble[3]	Pass
3NT	All Pass		

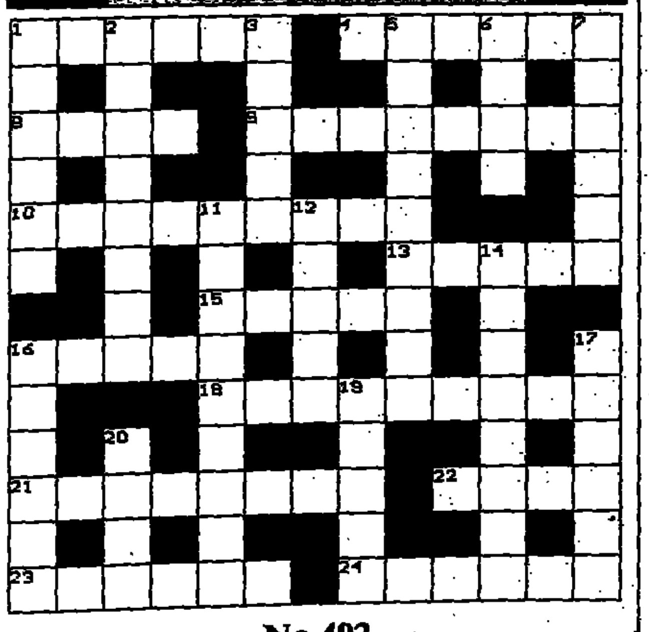
Contract: Three No-trumps by South.
Lead: four of spades.

[1] 15-17 [2] Spades and a minor [3] Values

Where Rigal and Diamond were North-South, West did well to lead a spade rather than a diamond. The declarer could tell from the bidding that West must have both the outstanding aces, so after winning the spade he took four rounds of clubs and two top hearts. West discarded two diamonds and a spade. Then he led the king of diamonds; West ducked, but now another diamond forced him to concede the ninth trick in spades.

At the other table South opened 1NT and was raised to 3NT with no opposition bidding. While passing on the West hand worked well here, I would have thought it was winning tactics to compete.

As North-South had shown no desire to play in a major, Seixas (West) led a spade rather than a diamond from his somewhat stronger suit. Rosenberg, not aware of the opponents' distribution, followed the natural line of playing a club to dummy and a diamond to his king, and Seixas ducked smoothly. Rosenberg crossed to dummy to lead another diamond, and Seixas now had four diamond winners and the spade ace for one down.



No 492

ACROSS
1 Spoken (French) dialect (6)
4 Cask stopper (6)
8 Maritime hazard; reduce sail (4)
9 (Esp. musical) introduction (8)
10 Englishman (for Scotsman) (9)
13 Confused; dirty (5)
15 Curl round; string (5)
16 Pour juices over (roast) (5)
18 Virtuous (9)
21 *Hail Mary* prayer (3,5)
22 Predator's den (4)
23 Broken-bone rigid support (6)
24 Enthusiastic; filling (meal) (6)

DOWN
1 Read carefully (6)
2 Hypothetical cricket trophy (3,5)
3 To faint (5)
5 Sheepskin for writing on (9)
6 Morose (4)
7 Pact between states (6)
11 Consider; amuse (9)
12 Imitating (5)
14 Extinct (often huge) reptile (8)
16 Relief road (6)
17 Down the wrong path (6)
19 Open, sandy land (5)
20 Wood; trade (4)

SOLUTION TO NO 491
ACROSS: 1 Wonder 5 Toured 8 Free 9 Forestry 10 Misdeed 11 Fives 13 Hair-trigger 16 Swift 18 Inspect 21 Fatalist 22 Sick 23 Severn 24 Elated
DOWN: 2 Ogreish 3 Dread 4 Reflects 5 Tara 6 Upswing 7 Eyrie 12 Vignette 14 Inflate 15 Recycle 17 Whale 19 Pasha 20 Sign

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THE LISTENER CROSSWORD

No. 3309: Use a Pencil by Ploutos

. . . and follow to the letter such instructions as you can infer. Every clue contains a misprint in the definition part; the correct letters provide a comment on your entry (in ODQ3).

ACROSS
1. Now one can deal with conflict here as well (12)
13. Pretty wall in new gallery (7)
14. Number fouls, perhaps, when taking in Ireland and Norway (5).
15. Land the Parisian in festival (5)
16. Well-versed buck's ecstasy is great (in a supercilious way) (7).
18. They have been ridden in unusual set race (7)
21. Find clothes for bemedalled officer in Royal Society (5).
23. Holy count is alright returning with guard for protection (5).
25. Strong wind leads to poor solo flight after initial take-off (7).
31. Thus one receives property, being one born out of station (7).
32. He finds gully's in front of rise (5)
34. Take amiss society rutting on moor (5)
35. It's cast at jewellers? Quite a lot, perhaps, as a showy flower with first-rate backing (7)
36. Bus overturns - hospital treatments will help crash problems here. (12).

DOWN
1. *Old member of congregation in pulpit almost does longer (6)*
2. *Strengthen class element in Acton/Ealing (4)*
3. *After long struggle fixed engagement. Result? Sex! (7)*
4. Take local cart with hesitation into vales, dressed to kill (5)
5. Create double, we hear (6)
6. Rite the world accepts, being socially OK (5)
7. Descriptive of resins that help to tarnish good ply - ruined more than half ogee moulding (7)
8. Hence rad shift is barely detectable so far in quarterly (6)
9. To clear height may make horse balk in pain (7)
10. Banging on the wall will raise alarm (5)
11. Chinese group initially sent abroad for ovine species from America (8)
12. Sees in Tories decline at heart (6)
17. Dust mark noted by Ian, hence the glower (8)
19. There's a trick in endless travelling, but it's a bind (7)
20. Bax's link with horn to close mass (7)
22. Unpleasant smell's nothing to complain about in petal base (7)
23. Some rule it's justice restraining open hostility (6)
24. Quantity of money being involved- hoard? It may be (6)
26. Pile pink or beige in redecorated storey (6)
27. Caman master produces up in house to give a beating (6)
28. You'll find the French involved in more rich food (5)
29. Note short jetty (5)
30. He's in London (no name given) over the hall servant (5).
33. Yet on the Danube here's a waterfall zone (4).

C	H	O	O	C	H	O	O	T	A	R	T	A	R
A	O	S	T	U	U	I	T	I	N	T	I	N	D
N	U	D	I	S	M	S	I	T	E	T	E	T	E
C	R	A	N	C	H	E	S	I	C	I	B	E	R
A	I	R	G	U	U	R	E	D	D	L	E	H	R
N	R	C	H	S	M	E	T	R	O	P	R	A	D
L	A	T	E	R	S	T	E	A	T	R	I	P	E
A	V	O	L	A	O	O	N	B	E	R	B	E	R
V	I	G	O	P	L	U	M	B	E	W	E	L	L
A	M	A	V	A	N	T	I	O	N	E	R	I	O
L	E	A	K	C	U	S	A	N	D	L	I	N	G
A	T	T	U	I	S	I	S	B	U	L	B	U	L
V	R	A	T	T	E	N	M	O	N	I	N	R	O
A	Y	E	A	Y	E	S	I	N	G	S	I	N	G

Solution to No. 3306:
A piece of cake by Smokey

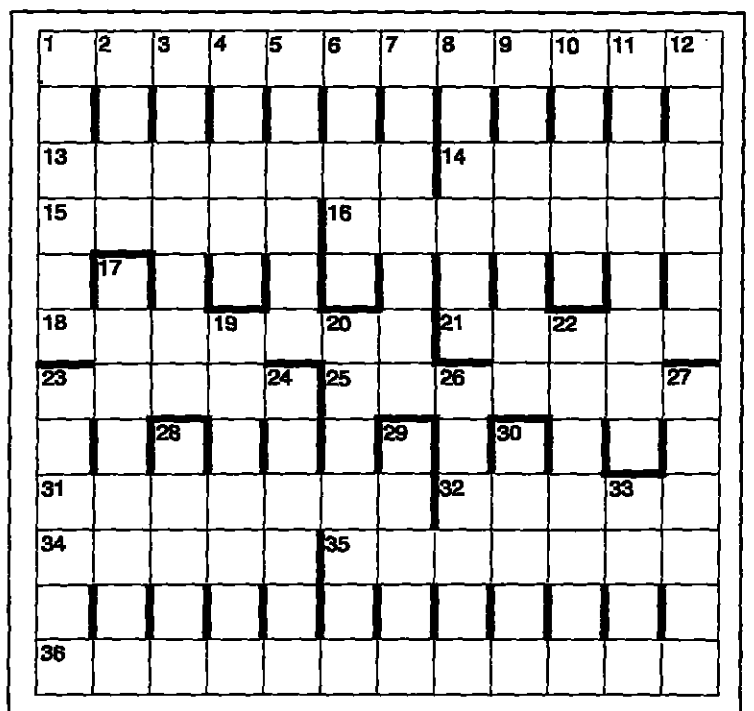
The 'cake' is CUT AND COME AGAIN as revealed by the 15 omitted letters. 17 clue answers have their last letter removed (CUT) and the remainder repeated (COME AGAIN) to form the light.

CUT: 12. Accost 16. Suite 20. Tibert 25. Anarchs 29. Lanterns 3. Doting 10. Antechapel 11. Order, order 13. Misere 19. Arctogaea 21. Eaten 26. Gravimetry 31. Solan 41. Enduing 47. Unseen.

COME AGAIN: 1. Choom 7. Tarp 14. Tint 17. Ten 36. Bere 51. Ism 52. Bull 55. Ayes 56. Sing 1. Can 4. Cusk 5. Hump 7. Tin 21. Beria 29. Laval 40. Bone 42. Logo.

The winner of Crossword No 3305 was G. Snowden-Davies, of Cardiff. The runners-up were T.M. Crowther, of Winchester, Hampshire, and A.J.G. Jones, of Sherborne, Dorset.

The winner of Crossword No 3306 was Mrs E.T. Ross, of Markinch, Fife. The runners up were A.M. Stark, of East Grinstead, West Sussex, and Sir Norman Price, of Eastbourne, East Sussex.



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PRIZES: Book tokens worth £50 will go to the winner. The two runners-up will each win £20 book tokens.

ADDRESS: Readers should cut out and send *the completed crossword and coupon above, to* The *Listener* Crossword 3309, 63 Green Lane, St Albans, Hertfordshire AL3 6HE. Entries must be received by Thursday, June 22.

THE PORSCHE WILL BE ALONG IN A COUPLE OF SECONDS.

What you see here is a Volvo 850 T-5 Estate out-accelerating a Ferrari 512 TR. It's a simple test: 50-70mph, in top gear. (The sort of acceleration you need to overtake long vehicles.)

The Volvo performs this manoeuvre in 7.2 seconds. The Ferrari does it in 8.2 seconds. Okay, it's only a second slower, but at 70 mph, one second is equivalent to more than 100 feet. (Or about 3 long vehicles.)

The Porsche 911 Carrera isn't even in the picture. It takes a full 9.3 seconds to make the trip. Fair enough, the test is in top gear, and the sports cars would out-pace the Volvo in a lower gear.

But as a measure of engine flexibility, top-gear acceleration is the yardstick (see Autocar's performance figures). Besides, how many sofas can you fit in the back of a Ferrari? **THE VOLVO 850 T-5 ESTATE. A CAR YOU CAN BELIEVE IN.**

CAR FEATURED VOLVO 850 T-5S ESTATE £21,750 ON THE ROAD. (EXCLUDING 6 MONTHS ROAD FUND LICENCE £74.25 AND FRONT FOG LIGHTS £105.00). ALL PRICES AND PRODUCT INFORMATION CORRECT AT TIME OF GOING TO PRESS. FOR FURTHER INFORMATION TELEPHONE 0800 000 850. SOURCE: AUTOCAR 29/3/95.